Bike/Hike Meeting Minutes May 22, 2018

Present: Lynn Goldman; Tom Kelso; Marilyn Jacobson, Chalfont Borough; Larry Gage; Bill Wert; Judy Hendrixson; Mary Pat Holewinski, New Britain Borough; Taylor Thompson, Heritage Conservancy; Chris Stanford, Michael Baker; Dick Patterson, Paul Gordon, Bucks County Planning Commission; Cynthia Jones, New Britain Township; Rick Colello, Board of Supervisor Member; and Stephanie Mason, Township Manager.

Guests: Katie Maio, Turk Road Resident and Chris Canavan, WB Homes

Minutes Approval – The minutes from the April 17, 2018 were approved on a motion from Ms. Holewinski seconded by Ms. Jones and unanimously approved.

Review of Projects

Neshaminy Greenway – Update – Mr. Stanford provided an update. He indicated that we got rid of the ponding. Ms. Goldman said Feeney's is available for landscaping that needs to be done on the Coulton property patching of grass by the ordinance. The feasibility of crossing at Beulah needs to be further investigated to do a mid-block crossing like that. Mr. Wert indicated that several residents are crossing at that location. Mr. Kelso said that it does need to be reviewed by the Traffic Advisory Committee and a menu of options needs to be considered.

Mr. Stanford indicated that a new project with LED's and mid-block crossings has been approved by PennDot. He indicated that he would look into it.

Neshaminy Greenway/Bristol/Upper State Road – Chris Canavan of W. B. Homes was present indicating that they are starting the approval process for Preliminary Plan; they recently went to the Zoning Hearing Board and got approval. They are incorporating a tail and the HOA will maintain it. The trail will tie into the parkway trail.

WB Homes met with the Planning Commission and found that it's very tight in the area to fit the trail. There is a drainage ditch to go through on each side. Structure Bridge – PennDot does not like that so they want to make modifications and work with PennDot to get at least an 8' path in the area also where the drainage area is to cross it. They can get there and not have a big impact on the ditch. They will have to deal with the PennDot right of way. They received feedback from the Committee and will be incorporating it into the plan.

Mr. Kelso would appreciate it to be done exactly as discussed; he is excited with the project and the project with New Britain Township and Borough. These segments will connect the larger area at Bristol Road as well. There is going to be a need to cross the large structure a 10' wide path or a minimum 8' and the probably through the spring area as well.

The PennDot central office talked about hydraulics and instead of putting jersey barriers across bridges with pins they now want them to be put in with rebar and tied into the bridge structure itself. This is a new process and it is going to be expensive. That is the solution along Bristol that will have to be incorporated. The bridge barriers will have to be poured onsite. The barrier is 54" high.

Construction money is coming from a TAP grant that New Britain Township obtained.

Mr. Gage inquired as to whether or not PennDot is going to require the same thing on Upper State Road bridge. At this time we believe it will be required as well.

Mr. Stanford will continue to be working with PennDot on that.

Lower State Road – Update – It's done! After discussion the committee decided the dedication will be June 14, 2018 starting around 3:00PM. It was suggested to do both Lower State and the Neshaminy Greenway will at one time.

Turk Road Feasibility Study – Starting slowly to understand the bigger picture with maps and the study area and review of the area. Keeping in mind that Pebble Hill Road is identified as Bicycle Route S in the state, it is a touring route. Expect a block study of the area to include Woodview, which is something Ms. Maio suggested. Mr. Stanford is beginning to identify the areas. Ms. Mason is trying to obtain a time and date for the meeting at the Bucks County Library also a subcommittee will need to be created of representatives from the Township and the Borough. People have been asked to serve and will be approved by the Borough and the Township as well. Suggested to start off with a round table study of the area and start the discussions keeping all options open.

Mr. Stanford is going to do some basic background, finding out about existing right of ways in the area for the public meeting and get some photos as well to give everyone a visual.

Bucks County Trail – Update – Mr. Gordon indicated that the County requested lowering the speed limit on Almshouse Road. PennDot approved lowering it to 35MPH. The reason is that there is a sight distance issue. Also there will be two crossings of Almshouse Rd to get to Turk Park. The trail system will go into Warrington Township as well. He believes this was a good step.

Dark Hollow – Is in the works. The consultant selection should take place soon.

Other Business -

The Pump Tract – Is coming along. Anticipate the dedication shortly; there have been delays due to rain.

Grant Awards - Doylestown Township received a \$985,000 grant; it is another TAP Grant for construction as a Safe Routes to School Grant along Shady Retreat and Limekiln Roads. This will be crossing the bridge but it will connect Olde Colonial Greene and homes on Shady Retreat to Doyle Elementary, Lenape Middle and Central Bucks West High Schools.

Question - A resident from Turk Road commented about a study on trails that justifies the funding for healthy communities.

202 Parkway - There was also discussion about split rail fencing and the 202 Parkway. Mr. Stanford indicated that the trail design met the standards of fencing when the parkway was built and ongoing maintenance is Penn Dot's responsibility.

There was discussion regarding guiderails vs. shrubbery and maintenance. This is something PennDot will need to address.

Adjournment - Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:26AM. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, June 19, 2018 at 8:00am.

Respectfully submitted by:

Stephanie J. Mason Township Manager