

Doylestown Community Bike/Hike Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 18, 2023, 8:00am
Doylestown Township Municipal Building

Present: Lynn Goldman; Judy Hendrixson; Tom Kelso, Marilyn Jacobson, Chalfont Borough; Roger Clark; Nicole McElroy; Larry Gage; Mary Pat Holewinski, New Britain Borough; Glen Maxson; Louise Silberg, Buckingham Township; Cynthia Jones, New Britain Township; Christian Regosch, Bucks County; Steve Disciullo, Baker Engineer; Dan Wood, Board of Supervisors Liaison; and Stephanie Mason, Township Manager.

Guest: None

Minutes Approval March 21, 2023 meeting, the minutes were approved.

Bike Education in Schools - Update

Ms. McElroy indicated that she met with Carley Mann, Bucks County TMA, and the principal from Kutz Elementary School about the Safe Kids Program Curriculum. This will be a three station, 40-minute PE Class for grades 3 – 6 on Wednesday, Thursday & Friday in May. They are going to learn how to wear a bike helmet, Rules of the Road, and hand signals when riding. If they have time, they will play games such as Red Light and Green Light. She is getting volunteers to assist. Ms. Goldman & Ms. Hendrixson will be in attendance. Ms. Mann has a lot of information on the TMA. Should be a good event.

New Britain Trail Project – Update

Mr. Disciullo indicated he is through preliminary engineering; he is about 30% outstanding design. He has a meeting in the field regarding the intersection of Rolling Hill Boulevard, New Britain Road, and the potential of a three-way stop. He indicated that PennDOT is still moving forward on the rehab of the bridge and coordination will need to be placed but input from the Traffic Engineer and the Chief of Police will be helpful.

Shady Retreat Safe Routes to School Trail – Update

PennDOT Project Manager is reviewing the document, anticipate fall construction, will take about a year, sometime in 2024. There is a draft letter from Ms. Goldman to go to residents reminding them of the project and when we anticipate things to start. We will be putting in as an alternate stamped asphalt that will look like concrete, sidewalk in light grey color along Shady Retreat to accommodate the request and aesthetics that the neighbors asked for. It will be non-slip surface.

Pump Track

It has been a pretty mild winter although it is closed there was some damage to a nearby building, a window was broken but it has been replaced. The borough has done more work in the woods to put in natural trails, jumps, ramps, and things. It should be a highly active site this spring.

Prioritizing list of Future Projects

Members of the Committee and residents walked Pebble Hill Road as part of the future project to go from the Township near Pebble Valley with a crossing up to the Doylestown Country Club area where we have an easement, we also have an easement along Mercer Gate on Pebble Hill and Cherry. On the walk we met a resident in the area, Mrs. Wheeler, who indicated that she walks along the roadway often and having a safe path would be appreciated.

Mr. Clark indicated that he attended Senator Santarsiero's public information meeting at the Senior Center last Friday. The Senator spoke about paving the 611 / 202 areas and he talked about 30% renewable energy by 2030. Mr. Clark believes the Senator could be ally regarding bike/hike routes, especially Bike Route S which is Pebble Hill Road and the need for a trail along there.

It looks like in addition to the easements we obtained there may be the need for a couple more. Concerns about crossing the pond which has a dam on it will certainly be a major design area to consider. It will need some sort of bridge to cross the pond without impacting the dam. Also, there is an area where the edge of the road is a hill and that will also need to be addressed.

Ms. Goldman suggested that fundraising options could be considered.

Mr. Maxson indicated that he teaches seniors about electric bikes and biking in general at Del Val University and that is something that could be promoted more with his students.

Mr. Regosch commented that the projects in Central Bucks for the County and the Neshaminy Greenway connections between the park and Turk Fields could be considered, also opportunities for a trail near the 1776 Shopping Center, could be looked at now that a sketch plan has been submitted.

Mr. Spurge, Turk Rd indicated that he is a bit of a map nerd, he would love to come to the meeting and help build maps of trails. Which the County has on their website and potentially link videos to the County map.

Mr. Kelso talked about a trail near Pine Run which could be a few years off. The idea is to try to get a trail to link to Lake Galena, from the Pine Run Community and Czestochowa. Although, a big undertaking could be an interesting trail project.

Mr. Regosch indicated that at this time nothing is new on the Turk Road / Almshouse Trail that the County is working on, they are working with the state to finalize plans.

Ms. Jacobson indicated that Chalfont is doing a small project in Chalfont Borough with regards to a trail with a pedestrian bridge as part of it.

Ms. Jones indicated New Britain Township put out to bid along the Neshaminy Creek for the Coleman Property, that project could move forward later.

Mr. Maxson indicated that one of his students reported that they were riding an electric bike along the 202 Parkway Trail and were stopped and given a citation. Mr. Maxson did not know which municipality his student was in when it happened.

It was indicated that the County is working on an ordinance regarding electric bikes, and it is pending with the Commissioners.

Adjournment - Being no further the meeting adjourned at 9:01am. The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at 8:00 am** at the Doylestown Township Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted by:

Stephanie J. Mason
Township Manager