

Doylestown Community Bike/Hike Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2023, 8:00am
Doylestown Township Municipal Building

Present: Lynn Goldman, Chairman; Judy Hendrixson, Vice Chairman; Tom Kelso; Roger Clark; Larry Gage; Cynthia Jones, New Britain Township; Nicole McElroy; Emily Valmore; Caitlin Hernandez; Nicole Rodowicz, TMA Bucks Project Coordinator; Louise Silberg; Chris Stanford, Baker Engineers; Christian Regosch; Bucks County; Dan Wood, Board of Supervisors Liaison; and Stephanie Mason, Township Manager.

Guests: Kellie McGowan, Sharon Kern, Bucks County Crisis Center; Chirs Smirga and Christina Rogers.

Minutes Approval September 19, 2023 – On motion of Ms. Hendrixson, seconded by Ms. Jones the minutes were unanimously approved.

Pebble Hill Trail – Update

Ms. Goldman indicated that it is a slow process, but they have met with the Munshower’s regarding the proposed trail and the right of way across their property. She indicated that it’s clear that Mr. & Mrs. Munshower see the value add and the increase safety of walking into town by having the trail. They have stone wall areas with lampposts which will need to be addressed.

Mr. Stanford will follow up with PennDOT regarding engineering evaluation and proposals for a planning grant for the area.

Mr. Gage inquired about the infrastructure money that was supposed to be forthcoming from the Federal Government. Mr. Regosch indicated that he has not heard anything as of late on such funding. Ms. Rodowicz indicated that all mobility needs must be diverse, working on that with other municipalities. If we knew when PennDOT will be repaving the bridge it could be addressed, we need to do a design analysis.

Bucks County Crisis Center – Sketch Plan

Ms. McGowan and Ms. Kern were on Zoom for discussion about their project. They indicated that they are in the preliminary/final plan with 20,000 sq.ft. Crisis Center on the Doylestown Hospital Property taking things out of the Emergency Room and adding them to this facility, so all activities occur on campus.

Bike & Hike means a lot and they are reevaluating the pattern that was installed previously, they also indicated that the delineators have all gone away and they are looking to address that by adding a five-foot strip in front just past the driveway with an eight-foot walkway with split rail fence that would tie into the area near the intersection of Limekiln Rd.

There was some discussion about appropriate signage in that area and reworking to have a buffer. They indicated that it would be part of land development and will address it at that time.

The consensus of the Bike/Hike Committee was that this is a good thing, but it definitely has appropriate signage to make sure it is clear. Also, if additional information could be shared with the Bike/Hike Committee it would be appreciated.

New Britain Road Trail Project - Update

The two round-a-bouts are underway, design is in final stages for New Britain Road, however the bridge over New Britain Road is going to occur in the near future but not at this time.

Shady Retreat Safe Routes to School Trail – TASA Grant

Bids are out, due at the end of October. Mr. Rich Gaittens, Pennoni inspector on Lower State will be the inspector via PennDOT for this project. He did a great job on Lower State, the three-way stop sign at the intersection will be implemented at Shady Retreat and Burpee.

Pump Track

Ms. Goldman indicated that it is in good shape.

Bike Education and Training - Ms. Valmore stated that the feedback from the schools was terrific, however the third grade is the best versus doing the whole school.

Ms. Rodowicz, Bucks County TMA; stated that this is a pass-through program and it's a way to get in with gym teachers to do it again. Third grade is the perfect time in school to do it. Getting the principals on board is vital to its success. The PE teacher indicated that fourth grade would be a good fit too. Besides Kutz getting this program into Buckingham, Butler and Doyle Elementary Schools would be excellent.

Ms. Rodowicz indicated that Carly from Bucks TMA does have some money to work on this, but it is very competitive.

PennDOT has a program to use scooters in the gym that helps teach the children how to ride safely.

Ms. Valmore will follow up with the schools and TMA.

There was also a question on the E-Bike Ordinance and getting the County to provide information as well. Doylestown Borough has their Witch's Ride, Ms. Hernandez indicated that will take place on October 28th at 10:45am.

Bucks County Trail Projects – Updates

Neshaminy Greenway – Nothing to report. The County is waiting to hear from their engineer.

Newtown Rail Trail Phase II – is moving forward.

Prioritizing list of Future Projects

Ms. Goldman met with the new resident at the corner of Steeplechase Drive and Main St., Feeney's donated five large trees that will be planted out in the field to help with buffering that was removed when the initial trail went in. This was something that was offered at the time, trees will be planted on the Bucks County Historical Society's property, which is who the Township has the agreement with.

Ms. Jones indicated that bids have been received for New Britain Township for the Upper State Road and connection for trail out there.

Ms. Rodowicz indicated that Dash Down Doyle was a success and they are doing a post pop-up bike/pedestrian lane survey. Hoping that the Borough will be able to keep and maintain the temporary bike/pedestrian lane that was created. There is now a post Pop-Up Event survey to take.

Adjournment - Being no further the meeting adjourned at 8:58am. The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at 8:00 am** at the Doylestown Township Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted by:

Stephanie J. Mason
Township Manager