

KENNETT TOWNSHIP
TRAILS & SIDEWALKS COMMITTEE

February 1, 2022 Minutes

Held in the Township Meeting Room with zoom attendance as an option. Agenda posted 2/1/2022.

Present:

Committee Members:

Christina Norland, Chair (via Zoom)
Diane McGovern (via Zoom)
Abbie Kessler (via Zoom)
Rudy Karkosak
Tom Janton (via Zoom)

Guests:

Peter Doehring (via Zoom)
John Wilkens (via Zoom)

Township Representatives:

Gretchen Flack
Amy Heinrich (via Zoom)

Ms. Norland called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm with introductions. She accidentally sent the January meeting and the February meeting wasn't posted until this morning. Mr. Janton motioned to approve the February agenda with a second by Mr. Karkosak. All in favor.

Administration:

- Ms. Norland called for approval of October minutes. Ms. McGovern motioned for approval with Mr. Janton seconding. All in favor. *September 2021 minutes were approved by email to ensure a quorum.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Trail Segment Updates:

- *Chandler Mill Final:*
 - SHPO has approved the project and will not require any archaeological work.
 - US Fish and Wildlife and PA Boat and Fish departments are coordinating a joint visit to discuss permitting.
 - Traffic study analysis has been completed and received last night by the Township. High level sketch of proposal was sent to the Committee yesterday.
 - The one lane sections were shown to slow traffic between 5-10 mph. Looked at other sections as well with suggestions for other ideas as discussed in the meeting.
 - To improve line of sight, some bank shaving is suggested and that would require construction easements from some landowners.
 - Mr. Wilkens asked if there are updates to the plan as there have been more changes since those were presented. The plans are in the works and will be presented at the next public meeting as part of the project.
 - Mr. Doehring requested copies of the traffic data and commented that at some point, the edge lane road concept will work when incorporating the various traffic calming ideas.
 - Timeline:
 - Final design plans are expected by end of February if all stays on schedule. Coordination of stormwater repairs, road improvements, and planting design will occur over the month. Preliminary erosion and stormwater analysis will continue.
 - Final design elements need to be completed by April 30th to keep permit needs on schedule for NPDES and DEP.

- Bid package documents should be done by summer/early fall with potential construction work starting as early as October with core work being done in spring.
- Will the road need to be closed ever during construction? Bid documentation will specify lane closures to ensure the road stays open.
- Possible pitfalls that could delay the project? Permitting requirements for mitigation needs.
- Response to Mr. Doehring's comments as submitted:
 - May proposal had a number of suggestions that have been discussed multiple times and several of the ideas were incorporated into the current design including the driveway component south of Round Hill, a detailed traffic study, chokers, etc.
 - Ultimate ROW- Township cannot talk about real property negotiations. There has been no discussion of alternatives if ultimate ROW not acquired. All these discussions are done in executive session.
 - Consultants have not declared this to meet the requirements for a shared use path. Yes, small kids or others may use it, but the goal is to improve the road for cyclists. The debate over LTS has been had multiple times.
 - Proposal to narrow the trail to 3-4' with passing spaces. In order for ADA accessibility requirement, a 3-4' trail would need a 5' passing area every 200' minimum. Years of design and discussions have resulted in this design based on the constrictions of the site and needs of future users.
 - There are spots where it may be narrowed and moved around trees if landowners approve such a design.
 - Tree mitigation and loss- there is an analysis plan in the works so every tree over 24' in diameter will have a mitigation plan. This will determine if the tree should be removed or protected and how to do so. All of these items will be included in the plans for the construction company to follow. Trees will be lost, but everything going back in will improve the ecology of the creek corridor.
 - Most of the trail will need to be built up to ensure the trail's stability and this is all being considered as part of the mitigation plan.
 - There is an arborist included on the project.
 - Trees will not be full grown when installed.
 - Mr. Doehring commented that there has never been a detailed discussion as to the benefits of a 4' trail vs a 6' trail and the environmental and economic benefits of such.
 - Yes, the entire road will be repaved as part of this project.
- *Cannon*: Tabled until March.

Mason-Dixon Trail

- Committee was sent the draft recommendation based on the January discussion with Peter McLaughlin.
- Ms. McGovern moved to approve the recommendation and Mr. Karkosak seconded with all in favor.
- Ms. Kessler will update the map and provide it to Ms. Norland for inclusion in the recommendation letter for the Board of Supervisors.

Funding Updates:

- *2017 CFA MTF Grant Award*:
 - Grant consultants are advising the township seek an extension until June 30, 2023. No concerns by committee members. Ms. McGovern moved to seek the extension with a second by Mr. Karkosak. All in favor.

Land Development Updates: Nothing on the agenda for the Planning Commission and no news from the proposed worker housing project on Chandler Mill.

Land Acquisition Updates: No update.

NOTE: Meeting adjourned at 1:52 pm due to the departure of two members and lack of quorum. Remaining agenda items to be discussed in March.

Next meeting to be held March 1st at 1 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Abbie Kessler, Secretary