

SAUCON RAIL TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Monday, June 28, 2010
Time: 7:05 PM
Location: Coopersburg Borough Hall

Present: Jack Cahalan, Lower Saucon Township Manager; Dawn Kresge, Coopersburg Borough Manager; Donna Bristol; Sharyn Heater, Upper Saucon Township; Frank Pazzaglia, Hellertown Borough.
Guests: Susan Anderson, Upper Saucon; Roger Jurczak, Lower Saucon Township; and Jerry Holum, Lower Saucon. Steve Labrake, SV Bikes arrived at 7:15 PM.

Jack said he sent a copy of the minutes of the last meeting to everyone. We aren't formal, so we don't take a vote on approving the minutes. If anyone has any corrections, deletions or additions, please let him know and he'd be glad to change the minutes. If everyone is okay with them, he will put them on the Lower Saucon Township website.

Jack said Susan was asking about the times of the meetings. He said we had agreed several meetings back about the times of the meetings. We were leaning towards 5:00 PM and the public who were in attendance said that wasn't convenient, so we compromised and said we'd do every third meeting at 7:00 PM.

- **Trail Development Issues (Surface, Signage, Crossings, Barriers, etc.) - Update**

Jack said he has a copy of a presentation he did at the Lower Saucon Township Council meeting. He walked his Township Council through the whole development of the trail from the southernmost point where it connects with Upper Saucon Township and then walked them literally over all the bridges and road crossings as it moved north towards Hellertown. At each of the bridges, he gave them some photographs and details on the bridges like how long they were, what the recommendations were that came out of this group and from his consultants for railings, fencing for approaches to the bridges and recommendations for the surface material. For the surface material there were three (3) recommendations which were the modified crushcrete which is a non-expensive type of surface, but there were some negatives like dust that were associated with that and also when it got wet, it got slimy. The slag material is abundant in Hellertown, so it would be free. There would be a cost to crush it into smaller pieces. There was a negative that was brought up about the slag which was the odor which we think is not that big of an issue as it dissipates after it's spread on the trail. We are still waiting for a chemical analysis on the slag material. That was something we didn't really want to move ahead with until that was done. The third recommendation was No. 9 stone. The railing recommendations started with the Jersey barriers and putting fencing on top of that. There was a recommendation for chain link fencing and then the third was for the wood rails. The other thing we talked about was access management gates. Those are the gates which would be at both sides of the road crossings to block motorized vehicles from getting on the trail. They could be locked and then opened in case of an emergency so an emergency vehicle could go on the trail. It would be a steel turning gate with bollards on both sides. He made those recommendations to his Council and they were comfortable with them. He did an initial run through back in the end of April or May, and then went back earlier this month for a decision on the fencing, the surface, and the barriers. They agreed with the recommendations and gave approval to go ahead with the wood rail fencing, the No. 9 stone, and also with the simple turn gates for access management so he has approval in the Township to go ahead with that. He's been working with Charlie Luthar in Hellertown Borough. They have a bridge that they share. One side is Lower Saucon and the other side is Hellertown's. It goes across the Saucon Creek so they each have a side of the bridge they are responsible for. They want to get the fencing uniform. Jack talked to Charlie and Charlie agreed they are going to do the whole bridge with wooden rails, and also the bridge that's down by Old Mill Road in the Township will also be done with wood railings. He is working on a big advertisement in the Township that they will put out and he'll run down some of the details from the bid specifications. They are looking for 750 linear feet for the fencing. The wood would be pressure treated no. 1 southern pine. What they are looking at for the fencing would be three (3) 2'x6' rails. There would be an angled hand railing on the top which would also be 2'x6'. The posts would be 4'x4'x8' pressure treated plain top wood. The top rail would be mounted at a 30 degree angle with three rails in

each of the sections. It would be attached with galvanized 5/16" lag bolts. There's no wire that will be used. The posts will be set on the bridges and the base filled with ballast stone. They are going to dig down into the ballast stone and the 4'x4' posts will be set in concrete. They want them to be sturdy and secure. They are going to put this together. They need to finalize a few more details and hope to have this out within a week or two. There are several of the fence companies who we hope are going to respond and they will see what the bids come back as. He will then have to take the bids to the Council and get that approved. If that happens, he hopes by this time next month to be close to awarding and approving the low bidder for the railing. He's also going to be ordering the gates and the bollards for the crossings. They have five crossings. There are two road crossings and one is a future trail access that is down by Reading and Bingen Roads. They will be putting a gate and some bollards there to block motorized access. They want to get the rail surface done and have agreed with Hellertown to use the No. 9 stone. The only thing they want to address is how much stone they want to put down and whether they want another base under that consisting of the modified or the slag material. They aren't really sure on that, but hopefully, it will give them a strong base and they can put the gravel down and get a good firm type of surface that we can use. They are moving ahead with that. There are two problems that are holding up the further development. One is Meadows Road in Lower Saucon Township where they will need crossing lights or signs. They got a variety of recommendations that everyone has made and they all have to be PennDOT compliant. Regarding the Cross Alert system, which is the lights on either side of the crossing, they are dealing with a PennDOT representative who is responsible for approving those systems. The Cross Alert system that they liked, the company never got that product approved in the state of PA by PennDOT. It has been approved on a case-by-case basis. It's not automatic like when we buy signs if they're PennDOT approved. This is going to take a couple more steps to get it approved by the gentleman from PennDOT. If that gets done, we still have to see what the cost of that is. We still have to determine whether the lights can be activated by solar or whether it has to be hooked up by the electric grid. There's a cost differential with that and they are still working on that. Hellertown has another wrinkle on Water Street and as reported previously, there are two blinking lights there currently. PennDOT has told Hellertown that they want one of the blinking lights, which is actually in Lower Saucon Township, to be moved on the other side of the rail trail to Front Street. There's a cost involved with that and Charlie is trying to get a cost estimate from Signal Service, the company that maintains the signals for the Borough. We don't know what that is going to cost. We are hoping that we can have our Public Works Departments do as much as they can to limit what it's going to cost the Borough. They are still hopeful that they can get a portion of the trail opened in Lower Saucon and Hellertown in 2010. He thinks we can at least get the Water Street crossing done. The one at Meadows Road he is hopeful, but will have to wait and see what happens with the PennDOT approval. That's the update for Hellertown and Lower Saucon.

Donna said you mentioned on the fencing for the bridges that the top rail is going to be a handrail? Jack said a handrail in a sense. It's going to be 54" high, which is the recommended height. Instead of being flat, it's going to go at a 30 degree angle. It could be flat or it could be slanted. Roger said you can gain a great deal by it being slanted and shedding water. Donna said are you talking about the railing up to both sides of the bridges? Jack said on the approaches to the bridges they will put up a simple post and rail fence. He showed an example of that. Donna said you don't plan on having volunteers helping? Jack said the railings will be installed by whoever the low bidder is. We want to make sure that those are secured firmly. The low bidder is going to install all of the fencing. The approaches of post and rail can be done by Public Works. The surface and access management gates and bollards will be installed by Hellertown and Lower Saucon Public Works. That will be done as time permits. We have to fit it into the schedules that Public Works has. In Lower Saucon, they are pretty busy with the park projects and their normal street and road maintenance. Frank said 750', is that just Lower Saucon's contribution or is that everything? Jack said that should be everything. The Saucon Creek Bridge and Old Mill is 260' (130' on each side); the Saucon Creek Bridge north of Meadows Road is 300' (150' on each side). Those two bridges are 560' and then all we have left is just a culvert that's down by Bingen Road that's about 40'. It could be less than 750'. They may have added in the Bingen Road Bridge. He will check that out again. In Hellertown, where Silver Creek comes into Water Street, they are going to use Jersey barriers and some chain link fencing there as a temporary measure to conserve some money. This will be less than 750' so it will bring down the cost.

Frank said down at Bingen and Reading Road, as soon as you access where the surfaces were put down, to the left, the No. 9 stone has compacted very nicely and is by far the best surface. It's been down now for six months. When that was put down, was there any thought to the thickness that was being put down as if you'd go back down there now, you'd know if you had to put more down. Jack said offhand he doesn't know how much was put down, but he will find out. Donna said if pre-surface was this material that Hellertown can get for free, it might be a good idea to put that down just to get down around the ballast stone as the ballast stone is so coarse. If that's rolled in the ballast stone, you will save a lot of money and so forth on the cost of the screenings which is the top layer. Jack said the slag was also applied last year by the Grist Mill and that's solid as a rock. It's got big chunks in it, but it's pretty hard. The Parks & Recreation Board walked on that and it would be a good base surface also. Donna said then you wouldn't have to have a great thickness. Jack said correct. As we go along, if more is needed, we can put more down. It would be a good starter. Jerry said the 4'x4' posts that are set in concrete, how does that set on top of the bridge? Jack said they dig down, whatever the level in the ballast stone is until you are almost down at the bottom of the bridge surface, and set the concrete in the ballast stone. Donna said there is ballast stone on top of it also. Jack said the engineers approved that and went out with a couple of vendors to look at it to see if it could be attached to it and they are certain that can be done.

Jack said the other issue discussed at the meeting was the issue about the horses on the trail. Donna said her Township Parks & Recreation Board met and discussed horses on trails. One of the things that was discussed was about where the trail itself was going to be and the trail to the side would be for horses and dogs. She thinks there was a general consensus that wood chips wouldn't be really a good product to put down because if dogs walk on it, there might be splinters and that sort of thing. One of the other things discussed was that a horse only needs a path. At most of the parks like Nockamixon, there's a path a foot or foot and a half wide. They are dirt paths where a horse or a dog could walk on. The Parks & Recreation Board felt that since the trail is going to be a linear park and is going to include the two Townships and the two Boroughs and it should be friendly to everything except motorized vehicles. Some of the people on the Township Parks & Recreation Board said it was nice to see horses along the trail. It added some beautification. We discussed the excrement, horse manure, horses peeing, and said that this would not be on the main trail, but would be off to the side and that signs should be put up that it has to be removed. Even signage saying there would be a fine for people not getting off their animal or if the owner didn't pick up the dog's excrement. The Parks & Recreation Board recommended to the Township Council that horses be allowed on the trail. She went to the Council meeting and their only negative she heard was that they were concerned about the horse manure. The Council requested she do some more research on this so she has discussed this with several different people. She went to several park websites and looked up horses on the trails and what responses the people had. She checked Nockamixon, Green Lane, Jacobsburg, the trail along the Delaware River, the trail on the New Jersey side and they have a place where people write responses about horses. There were negative responses on those sites about manure. Like the trail that goes along the river, it's just one trail. There's no side trail for horses to go on. To this group, she would make a suggestion that horses that would be using the trail would have to get a permit to do so. In addition to the permit they should agree they will remove whatever their horse does and it be given to them on a year-to-year basis. One of the things that Jerry had mentioned at the Council meeting was about the danger on having horses on the trail; they have a group, the United States Equestrian Federation, which has insurance to cover their horses on trails or along the side of the roads. Every year, for \$35.00 you can get up to \$1 million of insurance so if you are riding a horse and the horse spooks and hurts someone or causes an accident, you are covered. You could request that anyone using the trail provide that insurance. You could give them a little card saying they agreed to all of the rules and regulations to use the trail. To just exclude everybody, it's a shame. She knows someone that uses the trail now because in Hellertown there is so much traffic you can't ride a horse along the side of the road. He goes from one side of Hellertown to the other side of Hellertown to take his horse to a family's house with a kid who has autism. This kid could not speak a word before he started bringing his horse to their house and now he knows the horses' name. He asks his parents if the horse can come and visit them, and it's a really good thing. She thinks we should recommend that horses be allowed. If you want to make restrictions on it, then that's fine. She doesn't think you are going to have a whole lot of people riding on the trail. You're not restricting people that are outside of the township or the boroughs, but yet they say you can't take your horse on the trail, that's a sad thing. We can pick up the insurance. We can sign waivers saying that to use the trail, we agree

to these standards. This would be signed yearly. Our trail is 30' wide and 10' of that is going to be for bicycles, hikers, and so on. We have discussed having horses and dogs to the right. You don't need a big trail for a horse or a dog. They are responsible for keeping it clean. There's a horse council in our area that goes out and helps with trail cleanup and they monitor that sort of thing. They are conscientious enough about it that if they see someone violating the rules, they will say something as they don't want to lose the privilege of using it. There are so very few places that people can ride horses today that are safe.

Jack said the reason this came up was because he advised his Township Parks & Recreation Board that if Lower Saucon Township opened up the trail this year, it would be treated as a Township park. As such, park rules and regulations would apply and currently no horses are allowed in our parks. In order to allow the horses, the Council would have to amend the ordinance. Donna said or as they said, treat it as a different entity itself. Jack said it is still Township property. It will also be Upper Saucon property, Hellertown property and Coopersburg property and they have to make their own decisions. One of the things we discussed was none of the other municipalities has weighed in on this as to yes or no. This body hasn't been able to make an official recommendation because it's isn't a formal committee. It's kind of up in the air and that's why the Township Council wanted to find out what other trails were doing before they made any decision. Frank said for Hellertown they will treat a section of the trail as a park, like Lower Saucon Township is doing, and the ordinance specifically says no horses. Donna said Hellertown doesn't have an ordinance stating no horses. Frank said no, it doesn't. Donna said this is a chance for everybody to make room for people who want to walk their dog or who want to ride their horse. She doesn't think having horses on it is going to keep the trail from not opening. Steve said he has no objection, but it will be an extra expense to cover a 16" path for eight miles. There will be an additional expense for the parking area to be handle trailers. Before we do anything, each municipality must say yes or no, this can be done. Donna said she agrees there should be continuity. Steve said if one municipality says no, then it blows the whole thing all together. Jack said without the access, how can you really say you can ride your horse on the trail. Frank said he thinks all the municipalities would have to know there are passionate people who have horses who would like to have this trail allow horses. Donna said she's on fundraising also, and they could raise the money. Our top priority should be the 10' wide path for bicycles and so forth, but as far as being a detriment to having a dirt path, a lot of the dirt we could get for free and it just means putting it down. There are a lot of different groups out there that we could get volunteer workers or get money to sponsor it to put it down. Jack said the Township park ordinance was amended about two or three years ago when we were thinking about having the dog park. It said canines are permitted unleashed in the dog park, but in other parks they must be leashed and must be picked up after. It specifically says "only canines". That's where we are.

Roger said Jack said by next meeting, he would have the bids prepared or have the bids been responded to already. Jack said he said they would have the bids prepared and probably advertised. He's not sure whether they'll be approved, but definitely prepared and advertised. Roger said then by July meeting we'll have the bids out, and by the August meeting, we'll have the bids back. Jack said yes. Roger said then by September, that would be the point of issuing an order. Jack said probably sometime in August if we get this approved, then we can do the bridge crossings. At the same time, we'll go ahead with the access gates and bollards and Public Works will do those. He's hopeful by sometime in September, subject to what we find out with Hellertown about the Water Street lights, as those lights are critical, we can make a decision about opening a portion of the trail. If we can't solve our Meadows Road situation, we can still open the trail from Meadows Road north up to Hellertown to Bachman Street. It will cross Walnut Street and Water Street. That's impacted by these signal lights and by the fact that Hellertown has a limited budget for the trail. He's not going to say when, but he's hoping by the end of the year, maybe sooner. Jerry asked about the storm water issue at the Meadows Road crossing. Jack said that is being looked into.

Donna asked if there would be anything to enhance the trail, like kiosks or benches? Jack said sure, at this point though, he's just focusing on the fencing, the surface and the access gates. Those are welcome by the Township. The Eagle Scouts will do projects for Hellertown Borough or Lower Saucon. Donna asked if anyone knew all the different troops that were out there so someone could contact them? Steve said he talked to Hellertown and Lower Saucon scout troops already.

Dawn said they are at a standstill as they have to wait for Upper Saucon to get down to their portion in order to start as Coopersburg has a real short section. For people to use their trail, they will have to park at the Southern Lehigh Living Memorial Park and start there to come down. In order for them to get down to their section, she and Tom have been talking and they probably won't be down this way until next year. So they are going to try to coordinate it like Hellertown and Lower Saucon have been coordinating it together just to do the little section. She doesn't want to upset people. She wants to make it a very good project for the Borough. Right now with the 309 project going on, she wouldn't even be able to utilize her road department. They are getting called four to five calls a day to go to 309 for pipes being hit, etc., so they are very busy there. She and Tom have been talking back and forth as this is a project she wants to see go forward. Some of Council is sitting back and she's trying to show them the positive of it, but she doesn't want to initiate anything yet until she can get full usage of it. She's been talking to the road department guy about the different types of stone and what to put down and he's agreeing with what Lower Saucon and Hellertown are saying. With the horses, her concern would be where would they park the trailers as they are going to be utilizing the parking lot at the park and that's going to be an issue for them. With all the other activities that go on at the park, she's not sure how well that would accommodate a vehicle plus a trailer. She is kind of on the fence about that one. She doesn't know what her Council will say about that. Donna said all you have to do is have a sign saying "no trailer parking". Dawn said her concern is if they would want to start in Coopersburg to go on the trail and they can't park. Donna said is part of your problem money? Dawn said they do have to watch their finances. The surface will be going into next year's budget. She and Tom have talked and she knows they won't start anything until next year as he wasn't getting down to their park until next year.

- **Fundraising/Brochure - Update**

Donna said as a group, we need to make recommendations about what we want to do for fundraising because she and Jack were talking about it before the meeting. We don't have a bank account if she and Jennifer go out and speak to different groups. For instance, what if the Hiking Club wants to donate \$500.00 towards the trail and they write a check to Saucon Rail Trail, where does it go? We don't have a bank account. We don't have anything set up that says where the money goes. Does it go to Coopersburg because Coopersburg doesn't have the funds? Does it go to Lower Saucon? Do you divide it up according to the amount of footage? These are issues that come up every single time and no one has made any decision about it, so we're at a standstill.

Jack said we don't have an intergovernmental agreement and the by-laws that go with that. That would spell out the answers to your questions. Donna said she doesn't understand why that holds us back from fundraising. Donna said if Hellertown and Lower Saucon have the money but Coopersburg doesn't have any money, then we need to do fundraising. If you can go ahead and start putting down the fencing, and so forth, she doesn't get it. Do you have to be official to do what you are doing? No, you are doing it. Jack said he's doing it because they had funds budgeted. Donna said you had funds. Jack said Dawn doesn't have funds and doesn't expect to develop the trail until next year. Upper Saucon is making decisions on what is good for Upper Saucon. That's why we are focusing on our section in Lower Saucon and Charlie is focusing on his section in Hellertown. Eventually, at some point, we'll all be linked up together. That's what happens sometimes with trails. Frank said if someone came to Lower Saucon or Hellertown and gave them a check, are they in a position to accept that check? Donna said Jack said no. Jack said let me clarify that as we don't have an agreement and by-laws on how we handle those things. Frank said what if a generous benefactor came into Lower Saucon and said I think Lower Saucon is doing a great job with their parks, here's a check, and he would like it to go to Parks & Recreation. That would be up to Lower Saucon whether or not they wanted to use that money for the trail. Jack said this is considered a Township park, and we'd put it in our Township fund park and use it for maintenance for our parks. If this remains a Township park, certainly we'd need funding to pay for maintenance. Donna said the money could go anywhere; it doesn't have to be designated for Rails to Trails if it's not designated. Frank said it's up to the individual municipalities to spend the money the way they want to. If the fundraising efforts that are going on, or if someone is willing to write a check, tell them to go to the Township or Borough and write a check to the Township or Borough and they will decide how to spend it. Donna said if we are going to go out and talk to different groups, we're talking to people about the Saucon Rail Trail and everybody does not have a

Parks & Recreation Board. Coopersburg doesn't have one. Dawn said they only have one little playground over by the maintenance garage. Frank said at this point, the only thing we can do is they can go to the Township or Borough of their choice and send the resources directly to them and to use it to develop whatever they want. Donna said to answer his question about park benches, which is under fundraising. They were going to pick a design for a park bench to be used all along the trail. When they talk to the groups or individuals, other trails have done this, get people to donate money for a park bench and then whatever the park bench costs, put a plaque on it. We're at a standstill on that also as we don't have anything set up. Jack said Steve said he's got a Scout that's going to do the kiosks. If a Scout comes forward and says they want to make five benches for the rail trail, we're going to say go ahead. When the benches are done, we'll put them somewhere along the rail trail. Donna said she and Jennifer are working on the different levels for people to contribute. You can't tell the people what their money is going towards. Is it going to go for benches? Is it going to go for kiosks? Frank said in addition, there's one more thing you have to tell those people. It can't go to all four municipalities. They have to earmark it. Jack said just set up a park fund for the rail trail and put the check in the fund and it will be used for general maintenance. Donna said when are we going to set up an account? Jack said he can do that at anytime. If that's what we are talking about doing, he can have the account set up tomorrow.

Regarding a report from Upper Saucon, Sharyn said she was sent here and given no information so she can't report on anything for Upper Saucon Township. If there are questions you would like her to bring back to the Township Manager, she can do that, but that's it. Jerry said in Upper Saucon's budget, there is \$250,000.00 set aside for the Rail Trail, what are they planning on using that money for? Sharyn said she didn't know. People who are involved with that can tell you, but unfortunately, it's not her. She got asked today to come to this meeting and she's useless here. They evidently have a plan for that money, but she can't tell you what it is. Getting the right person here to the meetings to answer that would be your best bet and that person would be her boss, Tom Beil. Someone said who else besides Tom is involved from Upper Saucon? Sharyn said the Township Engineer, and also the Assistant Township Manager, to some degree, as he put the budget together. Donna said they've asked the Township Manager at previous meetings about their plans for the rail trail and he basically said until his Council members give a go-ahead on it, they can't do anything. Jack said if you are talking about the intergovernmental agreement he said that the Solicitors are reviewing it. Susan said she is from Upper Saucon Township and she is fed up with the situation as nothing is getting done. Frank said he had a conversation with someone who knew someone who had a residence in Upper Saucon Township and he understood that there was still a lot of concern from the people in UST who bordered the trail with privacy issues. His response back to him was that these are very valid points and there's a group of people here who spend time every month trying to listen to these issues and if there are serious concerns in any one of the Townships, they should come to these meetings. Jack said that's exactly right. That's what this body was formed for.

Roger asked about the High Street Bridge in Hellertown. If you are heading towards that bridge, the trail will end there, how do you get out of there? Jack said the SEPTA portion that is leased to us ends at Bachman Street. North of Bachman Street to the High Street bridge, some of the rails were removed, but that property belongs to Norfolk Southern. Jack said the trail itself goes under the wooden bridge. That's not part of our rail trail. Our trail ends before you get there. Jack said that's a future connection with the City of Bethlehem. Roger said so you have to turn around and go back where you started or can you get to High Street? Frank said once you are at that cut, you are then technically trespassing. Jack said you'd be able to get off at Bachman Street. You'd go up and turn around. The City of Bethlehem has put in a grant to restore the High Street bridge as Norfolk Southern wants to take it down. If they get the funding, it would allow the trail to go under the bridge and then they have to negotiate with Norfolk Southern on that stretch and then in the future connect our trail with their greenway which ends in Saucon Park.

Jack said the only other business under fundraising is that he did get contacted by a Sherry Zondlo, who is a representative from St. Luke's Physical Therapy and she said that she had read about the rail trail and she had discussed it with her group and they were interested in participating with us. He invited her to come this evening, but she couldn't make it. Donna and Jennifer will talk to her. He doesn't know what she has planned, but he's pretty sure they'd like to see St. Luke's Physical Therapy's name somewhere on the trail as it fits in with their wellness programs. That's encouraging and the type of things Donna was talking

about with fundraising. We will follow up with Sherry and keep her informed of what's going on. Donna said does this mean they have the go ahead. She and Jennifer have been waiting for someone to say you can go ahead and go out and talk to groups. Jack said you can talk to groups and tell them exactly what we've been doing here at these meetings. That's what he told Sherry Zondlo. The trail is in the process of being formed. There will be portions of it that will be opened this year and portions that will probably be opened later on. As far as talking about people about the trail, we can all do that. Donna said why talk to them if you can't ask for money. Jack said if you talk to someone and they want to give you a check, we talked about it earlier what our choices are. It has to go to the individual municipality. The person has to say they feel strongly enough about this that they want the money to go to Coopersburg and they walk in and give Dawn the check. Donna said if they go out and talk to a group, and someone comes up and says they want to write a check, we will give them to whoever the check should be written out to and the address, but they are not collecting money. Someone said you aren't going to go door to door and ask for tips. Donna said no, but if they have a meeting and someone says they want to give a check, they need to ask them who they want to contribute that money to. Then they have the name Saucon Rail Trail with Lower Saucon's address or Hellertown's address. Frank said go talk to the Township Manager and they will tell you exactly what to do. Donna said that's not the route. If you are talking to someone and they want to contribute money, then you have to say, great, go talk to the Township Manager. How many people are going to go down and talk to the Manager? If you give them a name, an address, and so forth, and hand it to them and say this is where you send the check. If she has to get in her car and go talk to somebody about giving the money, it's a lot easier for her to write a check and send it to them. Dawn said when you go out to speak to them, explain this is the Saucon Rail Trail, but they can pick a municipality they want the money to go to. Then you would have to make the check out to Hellertown Borough, Coopersburg, Upper Saucon or Lower Saucon. You'd have a list with all four municipalities and their address and you would give them that list and say you can write the check out payable to whichever Township or Borough of their choice. It wouldn't be made out to Saucon Rail Trail as we don't have an account to put it in, but it would be made out to the individual Borough or Township. For example, we would open up an account under Coopersburg Borough Recreation account. That's how she would have her account titled. She would put in a memo that this is for the Saucon Rail Trail so that all the funds that Donna and Jennifer would go out to collect, would get developed into that escrow account and once we start developing, everything we need to pay for would be pulled out of that account. They would just make it out to the individual Borough not to the Saucon Rail Trail. Frank said the message to any potential donors; tell them we are all ambassadors for the trail. There is a mechanism currently to forward funds for the trail. They could work with the municipalities regarding their donation. Donna said great, that's what she was looking for. When they finish the brochure, they can go ahead and start fundraising.

Jerry asked about overgrowth on the trail. What are you doing to maintain it? Jack said nothing right now, but they will be cutting it and treating it before the trail gets opened. The section from Bingen up to Old Mill is pretty clear. It's when you go further north that it starts getting pretty thick.

Jerry said you are going to open the trail from Meadows Road to Hellertown, how are you going to stop people who want to keep going. Jack said he's going to do his best to block anyone who wants to get on it in that section at Meadows Road. If somebody gets on it south of that, we'll have signage that says they are on the trail at their own risk. They will do their best to keep people from getting on or off it at Meadows Road.

The meeting adjourned. The time was 8:40 PM.

- Next meeting – September 27, 2010 - 7:00 PM @ Hellertown Borough