

SAUCON RAIL TRAIL OVERSIGHT COMMISSION MEETING

Date: Monday, September 23, 2013
Time: 6:00 PM
Location: Hellertown Borough – Borough Hall

Present: Lower Saucon Township: Jerry Holum, Roger Jurczak
Hellertown Borough: Steve LaBrake, Joe Pampanin
Coopersburg Borough: None
Upper Saucon Township: Joe Geib, Peter Jarrett, Susan Anderson

I. Call to Order/Roll Call – Chair

Roger Jurczak welcomed everyone and had all the representatives introduce themselves.

II. Public Comment (Related to Agenda Items below)

A. None

IV. Presentations / Trail Business

A. Rail-Trail Vision- See C-Trail Vegetation planning/mapping

B. Website Updates

Steve said he got Lee the new map for updating the website & we are going to continue pay as you go. He said we need to get more mile markers and fundraise for them. Joe Geib said he helped Roger with determining mile markers starting at Landis St. crossing & north through the park. Steve asked about the number of markers. Joe said 6 total but not all sold or put up. Roger said it is not feasible to manufacture just 1. Steve & Roger discussed marker near library and that it will be moved. Joe detailed the site locations of particular posts. He said we will make 6 and sell 3. Steve asked about price. Roger said \$150. Steve mentioned that Facebook likes are at 1429 working on 1500. Roger talked about accuracy of posts and whether they will match historic locations. He said the library near the park is the only area where distance may be off by 1/8th mile. Jerry asked about the route through the park not being on the original line. Joe said we would have to build a bridge that originally the crossing was graded which is now gone.

C. Trail Vegetation Planning/Mapping

Roger said Mary Ann will be back next meeting, does not have the volunteers that she thought she would have. He said Mary Ann told him she would be able to handle one area not three. He suggested the trailhead in LST since it is new has recently been reworked. He said it is easier to keep an eye on it at the trailhead.

D. Lutron 5K

Roger explained that the Lutron event will access the trail from Lutron property and from beginning to end there are no road crossings. Steve asked if event was private. Joe said the event was during work at Lutron. Roger and Peter remarked that there was no signage at Living Memorial Park.

Motion to approve Lutron 5K event made by Peter, 2nd by Steve, passed unanimously.

Steve said he will post on Facebook. Notice will also be posted on Trail bulletin board.

E. Letter, Passer Rd.

Joe Geib said he does not have anything right now regarding Passer Rd. culvert. He explained it is in PADot right of way and will write a letter explaining the increased activity & danger of the open culvert.

V. Miscellaneous Business Items

A. Minutes of July 22, August 26 Meetings

Motion to approve minutes of July 22 made by Steve, 2nd by Peter, passed unanimously.

Motion to approve minutes of August 26 made by Steve, 2nd by Peter, passed unanimously.

B. August Financial Report

Jerry suggested posting a note about receivable for grants to make sure we account for them accurately.

Motion to approve August Financial Report made by Peter, 2nd by Steve, passed unanimously.

C. Bills to Pay (if any) – None

VI. Public Comment / Citizen Non-Agenda Items – None

VII. Commissioner Individual Statements & Updates

Steve asked if we are interested in getting SRT water bottles from a printing operation out of Coopersburg. He said we could make \$2 - \$3 per bottle, usually need to order 100 or so at a time. Susan asked what they were made of. Steve said non-BHP. Peter asked if we want to start this, why? Jerry asked how it is controlled. Joe Geib said the municipalities probably do not want to get involved in this. Roger said we had discussed t-shirts and such for promotion. Susan said if there was an event you could do this but would be problematic otherwise. Steve said maybe the Farmers Market or UST Library would be able to do this. He said he does this with a mountain bike club. Joe said he will ask if UST would be interested, how to handle this. Roger said it would need to be outside of the commission. Jerry suggested events sponsors should sell this at events. Steve said the price would be about \$5 for sale with a \$2 profit. Jerry said these would likely sell but how to manage it? Steve said he felt the Farmers Market & Library would likely sell a bit of these. Roger said to defer this until we have a project for it. Steve asked if we could spend some money for signs at UST Park. Joe said that UST will do it but it is taking a long time. Susan said it can be somewhat confusing to get people from the park to the trail. Joe Pampanin said that work is progressing on bathrooms at Water St. Park. He said the building is being constructed by Service Electric to house equipment and that they are building the shell large enough that Hellertown will be able to install bathrooms in part of it. Jerry said he would like to see open vision over bridges in Hellertown & Lower Saucon. He said you cannot see comfortably over railings. He said the railings need to be opened to improve scenic view. Roger said it is not as bad on bridge between HB-LST than on bridge in LST. Jerry said plant growth is not an issue; it is the height of the railings. Joe Geib said they were designed by landscape architects with some safety standards involved. Susan said alterations would need to be safety minded. Jerry suggested chain link fence and to take out one or two sections. Roger said Jacoby Rd. has black chain link fence. Joe said UST still has a wooden fence inside the chain link fence. Jerry said he thinks the fence should be modified at the center of the bridge. Peter said the Perkiomen trail has some similar structures for views and aesthetics. Joe Geib said at Station Avenue they knocked back some weeds and there was some cleanup on UST section of the trail.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:20pm.

Next Meeting

November 25 @ Upper Saucon Township