

SAUCON RAIL TRAIL OVERSIGHT COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

**March 22, 2021 – 6:00 PM
Upper Saucon Township**

I. OPENING

A. Call to Order by president Steve LaBrake at 6:05pm

B. Roll Call

Present- Steve LaBrake, Matt Marcincin, Rebecca Miller, Dan Edleman, Pete Jarrett, Diana Inglis, Jeremy Mack, Lynne Morgan
Patrick Leonard Spec. Proj Coord-UST,

II. PUBLIC COMMENT / CITIZEN NON-AGENDA ITEMS -none

III. PUBLIC COMMENT (Related to Agenda Items below) -none

IV. PRESENTATIONS / TRAIL BUSINESS

A. Vision/Future Plans

1. Upper Bucks Rail Trail Update – UBRT joining with SRT?

Contacted Cathy Hartranft from Hellertown she is on board with IBRT joining. She was willing to help with the contracts. Upper Saucon is on board with the same. Tom wrote the bi-laws and would be happy to rewrite them. Coopersburg Borough Manager Tim Paashaus was contacted and he is also on board with UBRT joining. Lower Saucon is on board, Leslie will bring it before the township. Upper Saucon is on board. The comment was that there needs to be communication back and forth only to coordinate events.

No one heard from Springfield Township about participating in meetings or anything related to joining the SRTOC. Paul Stephanoff from Richland did ask whether he should attend the meetings. At the time we did not confirm it as necessary. No one heard from Quakertown. The group discussed that they, the townships and borough, need to take the initiative in the future after the invite is sent to them to come to our next meeting in April.

The committee decided we could coordinate with the two townships unofficially. Municipalities may not need to modify documents at all or we may decide not to modify, it is too soon to make that determination.

We are willing to pursue the joining of UBRT to our SRTOC. We want to know what are their expectations before we go further in making any changes to our documents and/or inviting them to join our committee. Springfield and Richland township will be invited to the next SRTOC meeting in April. A minimum of two representatives and township managers will be invited. Quakertown will be invited too.

2. Coopersburg Update -New signage and crossing light have been installed on East Station Ave. Plans are in the works for benches, trash cans, dog waste receptacles and golf carts for quick trail maintenance.

3. Bethlehem Update – The SRT connection to Bethlehem, there is no word yet.

B. Trail Improvement Projects

1. "RR Signs" Signage – Status and Installation Schedule -Steven isn't sure if we can get pressure treated wood. He wants to reach out and talk to someone regarding using a pedestal. Is there a better solution to anchor the signs? Miler markers are wearing out. We need to look at alternatives. Jeremy is going to reach out to Jacobsburgs Park and see what they do regarding their signage and installation.

2. SRT Bridge over Preston Lane -Contact was made with Septa. The building of the bridge is moving forward. The bridge is going out to bid in the next few weeks, month. Most likely will be done this year, if not started.

C. Upcoming Events

1. None

D. Other Business

1. LVHN Sponsorship Opportunities -they have not reached out again.

2. Mile marker status & updates to complete SRT markers -still need to be worked on.

3. Request for Letter of Support (Hellertown) They want funding for their project and a letter of support will help them. It is recommended we write the letter. Diana is going to write the letter and put it on Saucon Rail Trail letterhead and send it to Cathy Hartranft in Hellertown.

4. Winter Maintenance- A letter, that came from a Coopersburg resident asking to volunteer with snow maintenance to provide the ability for people to perform winter activities on the trail was read and discussed. The issue is liability and it would need to be a company with insurance that knows how to do this type of maintenance. An email will be sent with a thank you but not at this time due to liability.

E. Website/Facebook Updates

1. Adding a trail map(s) (both static or interactive) to the Maps section of the SRT website (Jeremy Mack) Work will begin on this project this summer.

2. An email came in from the bench manufacturer Scott Pinot, his company Eternal Products, wanted to put a link on the website for the benches. Diane explained that we don't have anything to offer space wise for memorial benches. We have a sufficient number of benches on the trail. Therefore, we won't link his company on the website.

V. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS ITEMS

- A. Previous Meeting Minutes – Motion to approve the minutes was made by Steve LaBrake, seconded by Pete Jarrett. All voted to approve.
- B. Financial Report -Motion to approve the financial report was made by Steve LaBrake, seconded by Diana Inglis. All voted to approve the report. Motion to approve to continue to waive the municipal contributions to the SRT by Steve LaBrake, seconded by Pete Jarrett. All voted to approve.
- C. Bills to Pay -no bills to pay

VI. COMMISSIONER INDIVIDUAL STATEMENTS & UPDATES

- A. By Municipality
Pete Jarret shared that the Reading Trailhead Native Plant Garden will have a clean up on April 2nd -rain date is April 3rd.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm

Next Meeting: **April 26 - Coopersburg Borough**