

## SAUCON RAIL TRAIL OVERSIGHT COMMISSION MEETING

Date: Monday, January 22, 2018  
Time: 6:00 PM  
Location: Hellertown Borough

### **I. Opening**

**A. Call to Order:** Chairman Steve LaBrake called the meeting to order.

**B. Roll Call:** Lower Saucon Township: Roger Jurczak, Tyler Zulli  
Hellertown Borough: Steve LaBrake, Phil Weber, Cathy Hartranft  
Coopersburg Borough: Ruth Poole, Rob Vanigen  
Upper Saucon Township: Diana Inglis, Peter Jarrett  
Guest: Frank Pazzaglia, Patricia McCloskey

### **II. Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items) - None**

### **III. Public Comment (Related to Agenda Items Below)**

Frank Pazzaglia, representing Lehigh University, presented an adaptation of the education panel that will be installed at the Landis Mill Road outcrop. This educational panel will illustrate the history and geology of the stone at the quarry. It will describe what is present and how important these rocks were to building the Saucon Valley. Frank commended the Upper Saucon staff for clearing the site. The installation will require a foundation which Peter will coordinate with Upper Saucon personnel.

Patricia McCloskey, representing the Appalachian Mountain Club provided an update on the Upper Bucks trail. Trail removal has begun north of Cherry Road in Richland Township. Bucks County is working to finalize the leases with SEPTA. Bucks has been in discussion with PennDot to determine how to cross Rt. 309.

Patricia advised the club and Lehigh University would be interested in producing two more panels in the future; one depicting the dinosaur tracks in Upper Saucon and the other the natural springs in Saucon Park. Steve also suggested one for each train station that was along the trail.

Frank offered additional updates on the Bethlehem Greenway connection. Bethlehem has received a \$250,000 grant to improve the Monocacy Trail which involves rerouting part of the trail and paving the spur off the D&L trail. Cathy mentioned Bethlehem is in discussion with Norfolk Southern to obtain rights to the area from Clark Street to the southernmost end of the City's property.

### **IV. Presentations / Trail Business**

#### **A. 2018 Elections/Reorganization**

Rob Vanigen introduced himself as the newest Coopersburg Representative.

Upon motion by Roger, seconded by Peter to appoint Diana as President, Phil as Vice President and Ruth as Secretary. All ayes.

**B. Vision/Future Updates**

- i. **Springfield & Richland Updates** – Update previously discussed.
- ii. **Coopersburg Update** – Coopersburg grant received will go toward Liberty Bell Trail improvements. No tentative start date.
- iii. **Bethlehem Update** – Previously discussed.

**C. Trail Improvement Projects**

- i. **Signal Restoration** – Pete and Steve will work on conduit. Roger clarified the purpose of the signal. The description and history will be amended on the web site and any future publication.
- ii. **SRT Bridge over Preston Lane** – Pete informed the Commission they are still waiting on PennDot approvals.
- iii. **Landis Mill Road Geology Project** – previously discussed in item III.

**D. Upcoming Events**

- i. **Band on the Run 5K – April 28, 2018** – Upon motion by Roger, seconded by Steve the commission authorized the use of the SRT on April 28, 2018.
- ii. **PA Highlands Trail Network Steering Committee** – the next meeting is January 29<sup>th</sup>. Peter will attend. .

**E. Other Business**

- i. Diana inquired if the map was ever completed. Peter will check with Joe.
- ii. Peter suggested placing boulders at Passer Road crossing to prevent bicyclist from going through – will contact Joe.
- iii. Peter asked that a spring work date be placed on the February agenda.

**F. Website/Facebook Updates** – Diana will update website to indicate new members, meeting dates, etc.

**V. Miscellaneous Business Items**

- i. **Previous Minutes** – Upon motion by Steve, seconded by Roger, the November 27, 2017 minutes were approved.
- ii. **Financial Report** – Diana presented the Financial Report for December 31, 2017 showing a fund balance of \$10,522.51. Upon motion by Phil, seconded by Tyler, the commission authorized the waiver of municipal fees for 2018.
- iii. **Bills to Pay** – none

**VI. Municipal Updates** – Cathy updated the Commission on the rapid flashing signal that will be installed at the SRT crossing along Water Street.

**VII. Adjournment** – Upon motion by Roger, seconded by Phil, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm.

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SRTC IS February 26, 2018 at Lower Saucon Township.**