

SAUCON RAIL TRAIL OVERSIGHT COMMISSION MEETING

Date: Monday, April 24, 2017
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, James Hill, Cathy Hartranft
Coopersburg Borough: Ruth Poole
Upper Saucon Township: Diana Inglis
Guest: Lee Weidner

II. Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items)

Lee Weidner commented on the number of bicyclist that do not adhere to the dismount bike signs at major intersection. Phil Weber confirmed the crossings are PennDot permitted and meet or exceed the PennDot requirements. Steve noted most bicyclist do stop.

Lee also commented on the dog waste and litter along the trail, specifically from Bachman Street to Water Street Park. Cathy noted there was a cleanup this past weekend and will notify Hellertown Public Works to monitor the area closely.

Diana indicated there is a running list of volunteers. Lee asked to be added to the list. Lynette Hill also requested to be added to the list.

Cindy Hallock, representing the Saucon Valley Lions requested discussion on holding a bike rally along the trail. As an avid trail user, she is proposing a bike rally the length of the trail and to incorporate bicycle safety for children into the program. She suggested starting and finishing at Dimmick Park. Cindy inquired when the Springfield/Richland trail to Quakertown will be complete. Steve heard Spring 2018. The Commission was in support of this request. Cindy will continue to coordinate and return with user application in the coming months.

III. Public Comment (Related to Agenda Items Below – None)

IV. Presentations / Trail Business

A. Vision Future Plans

- i. **Springfield & Richland Twp. Update** – Peter was absent from the meeting
- ii. **Coopersburg Update** – Ruth indicated the section closest to Station Ave. is close to being completed. Coopersburg applied for grant funding to finish to the County line.
- iii. **Bethlehem Update** – Cleared to Saucon Park

B. Trail Improvement Projects

- i. **Signal Restoration** – No action taken over the winter months. The conduit needs to be painted.
- ii. **Trail Direction Signage** – Upon motion by Steve, seconded by Phil, the commission

approved to purchase 15 high intensity extruded direction signs to be posted at intersections. Steve will give OK to Leslie to order.

- iii. **Mile Markers** – two mile markers in Hellertown have been replaced
- iv. **SRT Bridge over Preston Lane** – the area has been cleared, but no work has been done over the winter. Tom Beil confirmed the bridge will be completed in 2018.
- v. **Allentown Formation Access Platform** – Phil and Roger visited the site. Because the visual point is near the top of the formation, it is suggested steps be built. Phil sat with engineers to design steps.
- vi. **High Street Bridge** – work is commencing. Expected completion date is October 2017.
- vii. **Water Geology Feature at Saucon Park** – Frank Pazzaglia and his students have offered to design and install educational signage in the area explaining the WPA project as well as the importance of the springs in the area and their importance to the composition of the water in the Saucon Creek.

C. Upcoming Events – Southern Lehigh Public Library Book It 5K – October 29

D. Other Business

- i. **New Trail Map** – Info to include on black and white version – The commission discussed including an updated introduction, the mile markers and the trail rules.

E. Website/Facebook Updates – The Commission thanked Diana for her work with 110 Front on the updated website. Diana will be able to update regularly. Diana suggested taking a look at each page of the website from different platforms. It was suggested to add the Saucon Valley Farmers Market to the calendar. Cindy recommended listing nearby places to dine. Diana will look into.

V. Miscellaneous Business Items

- A. Previous Meeting Minutes** - Upon motion by Diana, seconded by Steve, the March 27, 2017 minutes were approved.
- B. Financial Reports** – The March 31, 2017 financial reports were distributed and reviewed.
- C. Bills to Pay** – Upon motion by Diana, seconded by Roger, the Saucon True Value invoice was approved for payment. Upon motion by Diana, seconded by Roger, the 110 Front invoice in the amount of \$800 was approved for payment.

VI. Commissioner Individual Statements & Updates – Tyler introduced himself as the new representative of Lower Saucon Township. Phil indicated the Saucon Street ADA and trail access is mostly complete. The contractor is waiting on PPL to replace a utility pole. When the pole is installed, the retaining wall and sidewalk connection will be installed. Steve mentioned PBS is doing an Our Town series of Hellertown. Steve was interviewed and spoke of the Saucon Rail Trail.

VII. Adjournment – Upon motion by Roger, seconded by Steve, the Commission adjourned the meeting at 7:20 pm

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SRTC IS June 26, 2017 at 6:00 pm in Coopersburg Borough.