

Saucon Rail Trail Oversight Commission Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2023
Coopersburg Borough

I. OPENING

A. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Eric Bartosz.

B. Roll Call:

Eric Bartosz, President (Upper Saucon Township)
Jeremy Mack, Vice President (Coopersburg Borough)
Terri Fadem, Secretary (Hellertown Borough)
Eric Boyer, Coopersburg Borough
Dan Edelman, Lower Saucon Township
Peter Jarrett, Coopersburg Borough
Steve LaBrake, Hellertown Borough
Cris Miller, Coopersburg Borough
Rebecca Miller, Lower Saucon Township
Mark Inglis, Staff Liaison (Lower Saucon Council)
Cindy McKellin, Lower Saucon Township Resident

II. PUBLIC COMMENT / CITIZEN NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mark Inglis stated Lower Saucon Township received a letter from a resident regarding concerns with the trail. Specifically, dog waste not being picked up, motorized bikes, speeding bikes, and dust. Rules and Regulations are posted stating that electric bicycles are permitted, and the speed limit is 15 mph. After a brief discussion, it was determined that enforcement would be challenging. LST and Hellertown Borough will occasionally spray the trail to control dust.

Mark Inglis also stated the leader of a local Brownie Troop reached out to the Township inquiring about volunteer opportunities.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT / AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments on agenda items.

IV. PRESENTATIONS / TRAIL BUSINESS

A. Vision/Future Plans

1. Upper Bucks Rail Trail: Peter Jarrett reported Septa was advised of the FY 2023 Omnibus Spending Bill and Community Project Funding of the \$2.7 million for the Greenway Trail Gap extension of the Saucon Rail Trail and they were not interested.
2. Bethlehem Update: There are no updates at this time.

B. Trail Improvement Projects

1. "RR Signs" additions to signs: The total cost per new sign/base is \$1,200 per unit. The signs would be placed below the new signs that are already installed. The next step will be getting the historic photos and information for each location. **Motion** by Dan Edelman to approve the Fossil Industries Quote F100907 for 3 signs at \$753 per sign, 3 post pedestals at \$321 per post and design and production costs at \$120 per hour.

Seconded by Steve LaBrake. **Motion passed.** The Enot Family will be listed as one of the sponsors for their annual contributions to the SRT. Additional sponsors for future signs will be needed.

2. SRT Bridge over Preston Lane: There are no updates at this time.

3. Mile Marker status: There are no updates at this time.

C. Upcoming Events

There were no pending applications at the time of the meeting.

D. Other Business

1. SRT Native Plant Garden: Maryann Snyder has volunteers and plans for improvements. The website and Facebook page will be updated with this information. Townships and Boroughs will be asked to post volunteer notices in kiosks.

2. Saucon Rail Trail Market: Eric Bartosz met with Corporate Images to create a storefront and handle orders and processing.

3. Data collection of future events: Jeremy Mack will create an automated form for events.

E. Website / App

Website / App: The calendar is up and running again.

V. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Previous Meeting Minutes: **Motion** by Steve LaBrake to approve the meeting minutes of March 27, 2023, as presented. Seconded by Jeremy Mack. **Motion passed.**

B. Financial Report: As of March 31, 2023, the fund balance was \$6,175. **Motion** by Steve LaBrake to approve the financials as presented. Seconded by Jeremy Mack. **Motion passed.** Terri Fadem will confirm if Hellertown Borough has paid the 2023 contribution.

VI. COMMISSIONER INDIVIDUAL STATEMENTS & UPDATES

A. By Municipality: Mark Inglis stated that the Certificates of Insurance for rail trail events are not being submitted in a timely manner. Eric Bartosz stated that the municipalities require the COI's so they should be the party responsible to pursue submission. The SRT Commission advises applicants of approval only. The application process will reviewed for clarity and posted online.

B. Other Business: There was a new water fountain with a dog bowl installed at Bingen. It is unknown who performed the installation. There was a discussion regarding installing a welcome sign at the trail at Jacoby Road, Bingen Road and New Bridge and a brief discussion regarding police patrols on the trail.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Steve LaBrake to adjourn the meeting at 6:49 pm.

The next meeting will be held on June 26th, 2023 at Upper Saucon Township at 6:00 pm.