

Saucon Rail Trail Oversight Commission Meeting Minutes
October 27, 2025
Coopersburg Borough

I. OPENING

Meeting called to order at 6:01 pm

II. Roll Call

Eric Bartosz, President (Upper Saucon)
Jeremy Mack, Vice President (Coopersburg)
Sarah Sumoski, Secretary (Hellertown)
Cris Miller
Peter Jarrett
Frank Thompson

III. PUBLIC COMMENT / CITIZEN NON-AGENDA ITEMS

No new updates.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT / AGENDA ITEMS

No new updates.

V. PRESENTATIONS / TRAIL BUSINESS

- A. Mile Marker Status – Jeremy Mack has photos of every ¼ mile to determine if new structures need to be added. Jeremy will share the photos, possible for volunteers like the Southern Lehigh Run Club or scouts to install. Discussed possibly adding a QR code to the mile markers to give users exact location coordinates. Peter Jarrett shared that some original trail maps exist from the railway and will try to find them.
- B. Trail Updates
 - i. Bridge repairs – Top rails have been replaced.
 - ii. E-bike misuse mitigation – There is a particular group of users leaving donuts on dirt bikes in the Upper Saucon section. Police are looped in. Cris Miller mentioned that cameras will be added to the bridge over Preston Lane.
- C. Native Plant Garden – Peter Jarrett shares that Maryann and the garden had a great year and a lot of help. There were roughly 30 participants at the Wildlands Conservancy Butterfly release. Maryann will be passing along her leadership role and Lower Saucon gifted her a commemorative piece. The SRTOC discussed providing a thank you lunch for her hard work.
- D. Geology Kiosks – The area is cleaned. Peter Jarrett shared that two dials need to be repaired/replaced near Landis Mill Road. Peter will contact Lehigh University to replace the missing piece. Peter will take some photos of the site.
- E. Hellertown Marsh Signs – Eric Bartosz shares that each panel is \$900. (+ \$350 for back panel mounting bracket if needed) Estimating sponsorship \$1,000 per sign – 6 total. Eric will draft a Sponsorship request for local businesses.
- F. Utility Poles – No updates at this time.
- G. Bike Fix-it Station donation – Eric Bartosz is in communication with Jim Frees and Patrick Leonard for this donation at Upper Saucon Park. Jim and Patrick are meeting soon to discuss

the location. Cris Miller shared that we should include signage for the location of the Bike-Fix-it stations – Jeremy Mack confirmed we should add the locations to the map.

VI. NEW/OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Website/App – Jeremy Mack is working with a student to create a Rail Trail app and will submit to Apple for approval. Potential to put in a service ticket for users to report downed trees or other concerns. An android version should be straightforward to create as well. Cris Miller mentioned using devices on the trail to create heat map of users.
- B. Eric Bartosz and Jeremy Mack clarified that the e-bike policy is on the SRTOC website.
- C. E-mail Updates – A volunteer request was passed along to Maryann.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS ITEMS

- A. **Motion** September 22, 2025 Meeting Minutes - Frank Thompson makes a motion to approve. Jeremy Mack seconds, **Motion Approved.**
- B. **Motion** September 30, 2025 Financial Report – Peter Jarrett makes a motion to approve, Frank Thompson seconds. **Motion Approved.**

VIII. COMMISSIONER INDIVIDUAL STATEMENTS & UPDATES

- A. Frank Thompson contacted the Greenway Expansion Engineering Project to connect. Still on track to break ground in spring 2026, ribbon cutting in 2027. A 12 ft wide asphalt trail. No additional public parking, but there will be two new access points, 1 will be located behind the new LVHN hospital. The group would like the SRTOC to remain involved as needed and Frank will remain in contact.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Cris Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 pm.

The next meeting will be held on November 24, 2025 at Upper Saucon Township at 6:00 pm.