

KENNETT TOWNSHIP TRAILS & SIDEWALKS COMMITTEE MEETING

February 2, 2021 Minutes

Held virtually via zoom.

Present:

Committee Members:

Christina Norland, Chair
Diane McGovern
Tim Peterson
Rudy Karkosak
Abbie Kessler
Tom Janton

Guests:

Peter Doehring
John Wilkens
Michael Guttman

Township Representatives:

Eden Ratliff
Amy Heinrich
Gretchen Flack

Ms. Norland called the meeting to order at 1:02.

NEW BUSINESS:

Administration:

Review & approval of January 2021 minutes

Ms. McGovern suggested a change regarding wording, but Ms. Kessler verified intent and determined no changes needed. Mr. Janton moved to approve with a second by Mr. Karkosak and all in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

CFA/MTF Grant Update:

- Mr. Ratliff stated that the Township was submitting reimbursements for the Chandler Mill bridge work via GMS consultants.

Kennett Greenway Updates:

Chandler Mill Preliminary Engineering Update:

- Survey - purpose was to inform the elements of design and not whether there should be a greenway or not. Focus on determining wishes of residents and their use goals. Over 820 respondents. Results will be presented at the public meetings. Most respondents want to connect to natural areas and to walk and do family recreation, but details to come. Survey closed 1/31. Committee would like to see results in advance of the public meeting. We will most

likely have a committee meeting before the March one to review materials if the public meetings occur before said March meeting.

- Key stakeholder meetings -
 - Whittle/Brewers: corner of Hillendale and CM Rd. Want ease of maintenance and clean look in order to keep out invasives. Avoid people parking on the edge of their property. Opposed to additional signage. Mr. Wilkens said the corner house did buy the corner lot, which is true.
 - TLC - met the consultants with the Exec. Comm. and discussed the impact on the turnaround traffic. Reduce the impact on the parking lot and consider long-term impact of increased visitation.
 - Roger worked with TLC's Carl on the trail at the bridge so people can go around the gates recently installed.
- Engineering progress - McMahon focused on traffic and speed studies and geometry of CM Rd entire length. Examining options based on that. 6-10' trails, ELR feasibility in parts or all of that. Everything must be signed off on by PE standards. Feasibility is key as to final design. McMahon will then meet with Unknown Studios regarding traffic calming and design elements. Key to help eliminate non-legitimate traffic that don't understand the road closed signs. After all of this will be the public feedback meetings.
- ELR Change Order - consultants are looking into the possibility for ELRs on CM. BOS approved change order to review the feasibility and they will review it regarding engineering possibilities. Decisions will be based on the data from the studies. Consultants met with Mr. Williams, ELR consultant, on 1/22. Williams presented on ELRs and provided suggestions.
- Scheduling public feedback sessions - working to coordinate schedules for these to be held in later February. Public and Board feedback will provide input into the final engineering as what will be presented will be preliminary.

West South Street Preliminary Update:

- Survey completed by Meliora Design for trail from Borough to west branch. Unknown Studios meeting coming up for design elements. This is an alternative in case CM can't get done. NG is applying for the TSA set aside grant this year to do the trail from the Kennett line up to the NG shopping center. Strategizing for two grants to apply for the complete project. This engineering work will be used for the grant application if chosen to proceed.

Kennett Township Properties:

- Ms. McGovern commented that a tree is down at Lord Howe from the Spar Hill side, but trail remains passable. Lord Howe looks good overall. She questioned the 2021 maintenance contract, which is still in discussions. Questioned the intent to build a bridge across the stream at Barkingfield as it is slippery. Mr. Ratliff said he spoke with Roger Lysle about it, but he is not aware of a time frame.

Land Development Updates:

- Little action. Avello granted final approval with conditions and no other developments are on the agenda. A preliminary subdivision is on the next agenda, but nothing has been seen yet.

Land Acquisition Updates:

- All projects pending grant announcements or family decisions.

Public Comments:

- Mr. Doehring asked whether the consultants and township are moving one plan forward to the funders/level of detail to be presented to the public. Ms. Norland stated that preliminary engineering will result in a number of options presented to the public and there will be trade offs for each option. Community will provide feedback as to which option makes the most sense. The Board of Supervisors gets final say to choose the design and that will be moved forward for final design and bid package. Details can be tweaked based on different elements of various options. Support and input from the various road agencies will aid in the approval of extensions for the funding.
- Mr. Wilkens requests that information be publicly shared before it gets too far. Ms. Norland restated that the public meetings will have a variety of options presented at them and they aren't presenting earlier as they don't want to present options that are not feasible and have people want those options.
- There will potentially be another February meeting pending the survey results that is yet to be determined.

Meeting adjourned at 1:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Abbie Kessler, Secretary