

KENNETT TOWNSHIP
TRAILS & SIDEWALKS COMMITTEE

February 7, 2023 Minutes

Held via zoom. Agenda posted 2/5/23.

Present:

Committee Members:

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

Guests:

Josie Marsh
John Wilkens
Peter Doehring

Township Representatives:

Kassie Zinzel
Ted Otteni
Amy Heinrich

Ms. Norland called the meeting to order at 1:04 pm.

Administration:

- No additions to the agenda.
- Election of Committee Officers: Per the Board resolution, the Chair must be held by a Township resident. Ms. McGovern nominated Mr. Karkosak with a second from Ms. Norland. All in favor. Mr. Karkosak thanked the committee and shared his appreciation for Ms. Norland's work and continued help for the Committee.
- Ms. McGovern nominated Ms. Kessler to continue as secretary. Ms. Norland seconded. All in favor.
- Mr. Karkosak called for the approval of the November minutes. With no comments, Ms. McGovern motioned for approval with Mr. Janton seconding and all in favor.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Trail Segment Updates:

- Chandler Mill Greenway-
 - Permitting is ongoing with the township waiting for responses.
 - Mr. Otteni shared that they are working with landowners to make final changes and answer remaining questions. They expect to put out to bid shortly.
 - Public question:
 - Mr. Doehring asked for confirmation that there has not been a reply from the Army Corps of Engineers and Mr. Otteni confirmed a response is still pending.
 - Mr. Doehring asked about the presentation to the Conservation District. Mr. Otteni confirmed that there have been written comments from the

Conservation District re the NPDES permit. He does not know what the nature of the comments were.

- Ms. McGovern asked if they can start without the easements all secured. Mr. Otteni confirmed that they can start various parts of the project and work towards the final construction.

Regional Trail Priorities:

- Planning Kennett Connections Project
 - Public Workshop scheduled for 2/9/23.
 - Goal is to get feedback on where people want to connect to and in what method.
 - This does not include the Red Clay Park project in the Borough.

Kennett Bike Park: *Presentation by Josie Marsh, Bike Kennett*

- The idea came from the various bike giveaways that Bike Kennett has done and an interest in other amenities for bikers.
- Proposing a pump track in the field at Parrish with additional skills trails in the woods at Parrish.
- Pump track loops will have native pollinator plantings between the track.
- Ms. McGovern asked about handling the wet conditions. Ms. Marsh stated they would build up the pump track area in the meadow to avoid the wet conditions.
- Ms. Kessler asked about the woodland as it is very wet and has potential for a lot of soil runoff from an exposed dirt path used for biking. Ms. Marsh said they would stay primarily on an existing berm and build boardwalks elsewhere.
- Ms. McGovern asked about liability. The Borough has it covered.
- Mr. Karkosak asked if there would be supervision. Ms. Marsh stated that there will be signage, but no supervision. The main trail would still remain.
- The Borough has seen the detailed plans and approved it.
- Questions as to whether the EAC has reviewed the proposal.
- Mr. Doehring asked about the boardwalk counting as impervious and whether they have mapped out the impact of building up the trails on tree root systems.
- Ms. Heinrich asked if Ms. Marsh has spoke to Police Chief Gordon about future needs for checking on the site periodically.
- Mr. Karkosak asked that Ms. Marsh take it to the EAC and double check with Kennett Township that it does not need to go before the Planning Commission or Board of Supervisors.

Land Development Updates:

- Parkside: Plans are being redeveloped with updated plans submitted in January.
 - Developer had promised a trail with the original idea being a trail down to Cypress to Exelon, but this is no longer feasible. Second idea was to connect to Anson B Nixon directly across N. Walnut.
 - They are proposing two crosswalks across Walnut St. to the Leto fields. Leto fields doesn't have a true path down to the entrance to Anson B. Nixon.

- Mr. Karkosak does not believe this will satisfy the trail request, but the plans are being revised so he is waiting to see the final proposal.
- New plans being presented next Tuesday.
- The Flats connection to Anson B. Nixon is still needed, but if the two developments connect, it is possible that the Route 1 right of way trail would create an access point.

Land Acquisition Updates: Discussed the Schutt acquisition closed last week.

Other business: Spar Hill work should be done by end of February, early March.

Ted Otteni introduced himself to the Committee as new Director of Public Works. He has a history with trails and enjoys doing them.

Ms. Kessler moved to adjourn with a second by Ms. McGovern and all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 1:57 pm.

Next meeting to be held March 7th at 1 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Abbie Kessler, Secretary