

KENNETT TOWNSHIP
TRAILS & SIDEWALKS COMMITTEE

March 7, 2023 Minutes

Held in the Township Meeting Room. Agenda posted 3/3/23.

Present:

Committee Members:

Christina Norland
Rudy Karkosak, Chair
Abbie Kessler
Diane McGovern
Tom Janton via zoom and cell

Guests:

Peter Doehring

Township Representatives:

Ted Otteni

Mr. Karkosak called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm.

Administration:

- No additions to the agenda.
- Mr. Karkosak called for the approval of the February minutes. With no comments, Ms. Norland motioned for approval with Ms. McGovern seconding and all in favor.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Trail Segment Updates:

- Chandler Mill Greenway-
 - Paperwork received by township for extension of 2017 CFA MTF grant with a potential new deadline of June 2024.
 - Wetland mitigation rules are still up in the air with decision coming from PA DEP.
 - Ms. McGovern asked about the back up plan and that will be discussed in executive session.
 - Mr. Doehring asked about the joint permit and that has cleared the Army Corps review with the PA DEP portion waiting approval.
 - Mr. Doehring stated that his Right to Know requests indicate that landowners may not have been consulted early enough in the process and that he thinks the Township should never go to the design phase of any project without having right-of-way or properties secured.
 - The Committee stated that there have been years of public and private landowner meetings and that the fallback is frequently “I didn’t know.” The Township has done extensive outreach and coordination with impacted landowners, discussing plans, and working on concerns. There is no plan by the Township to consider eminent domain.

Regional Trail Priorities:

- Planning Kennett Connections Project
 - Public meeting held in February and all the slides and maps are available on the project site. <https://www.kennectivity.com/planning-kennett-connections>
 - Final plan should go to the Board of Supervisors in June or July with an additional committee meeting in April/May.
 - Mr. Doehring asked about the reality of such a connection happening and the value of a plan.
 - Committee pointed out that prior attempts were not done in partnership with other municipalities and destination entities.
 - A plan can be used to prove cooperation and priority in order to secure funding.
 - PennDOT controls final outcomes as the connection would be largely on state routes with the plan being written by McMahon Associates.

Land Development Updates:

- Parkside: Plans still being revised as the February Planning Commission meeting was presented with the March 2022 plan. There are approximately 50 outstanding issues from the Township engineer's review.
 - The project is using TDRs from Barkingfield and the Planning Commission is waiting on the calculation used to reach the number of homes on the site.
 - Commercial entities not known and the fire department has issues with the drives.
 - Question pertaining to the TSC opinion of the crosswalks on Walnut
 - TSC members request that the Walnut frontage have a shared use path along the entire frontage rather than the unconnected sidewalk shown on the plan.
 - Two crosswalks likely to cause issues with traffic and so we request that there be one at the north entrance only. This crosswalk should be signed or use some traffic calming measures as prior studies on Walnut show high speeds of traffic.
 - Request a shared use path of at least 10' in width along the northern property line as well for future Route 1 shopping/Longwood connections.
 - Hope to see a revised plan in the next two months.

Land Acquisition Updates: Discussed in executive session.

New Business:

- Ms. McGovern commented that the Barkingfield bridge is seeing a lot of use and so is the second meadow. She requests that the trail in the third meadow be mowed again to help spread usage out. Mr. Otteni agreed to look at a map with her after the meeting and talk about it. Ms. Kessler noted that the easement allows trails in the meadow outside of the secondary buffer easement and that trails can connect across the hedgerows.
- Mr. Karkosak asked for an update on the bike park on the Parrish parcel presented last month, but there has been no news as to the TSC requests to speak to Ms. Hicks and the EAC.

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

Next meeting to be held April 4th at 1 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Abbie Kessler, Secretary