

KENNETT TOWNSHIP
TRAILS & SIDEWALKS COMMITTEE

September 6, 2022 Minutes

Held via zoom. Agenda posted September 2, 2022.

Present:

Committee Members:

Christina Norland, Chair
Diane McGovern
Abbie Kessler
Rudy Karkosak

Guests:

John Wilkens
Peter Doehring

Township Representatives:

Amy Heinrich
Kassie

Ms. Norland called the meeting to order at 1:07 pm.

Administration:

- Ms. Norland called for the approval of the August minutes. With no comments, Ms. McGovern motioned for approved with Mr. Karkosak seconded and all in favor.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Trail Segment Updates:

- Chandler Mill Greenway-
 - Permitting is proceeding and all permits are being filed in the next few weeks. The goal is to put a bid package out by February.
 - There is also a maintenance plan being drafted for who will and how it will be maintained.
 - Mr. Wilkens asked as to whether there would be some public review option before the plans are officially finalized and approved. Ms. McGovern and Mr. Karkosak agreed and asked about when they will be shown. Ms. Norland commented that there has been a lot of input and review, but there is a limit to what can be done to keep the project moving and within the budget.
 - Mr. Doehring asked for confirmation regarding status of ROW acquisition. His right to know request showed that no agreements have been signed. Ms. Norland stated that 40% confirmed actually means that the work by the consultants towards acquiring ROW is 40% complete.
 - Mr. Doehring is concerned that the work is being done without any secured ROW or acquisition. Is there a chance that the Township would pursue legal recourse to get the land needed to complete the design as proposed?

- Mr. Doehring questioned whether the slides presented to the Board in April were ever reviewed by the Committee. Ms. Norland stated that the slides were created by the consultants at the Supervisors' request and presented to them and not the Committee. Mr. Wilkens has seen the slides on the Greenway website and would like to know if it is downloadable as he would like to see it better.

Regional Trail Priorities:

- Kennett Connectors Project
 - Steering committee will be meeting September 26th.
 - Watch party being planned with details below.

Upcoming Events:

- Chandler Mill Final Design Open House:
 - Confirmed that it will be at Chandler Mill Nature Preserve on October 8th and most likely in the early afternoon.
 - Consultants will be available with designs out for review. Supervisors will be out and will be similar to the event last fall to review the plans.
- Planning Kennett Connections Workshop and Watch Party
 - Online and public workshop on October 26th at 6:30.
 - Goal is to discuss East Marlborough, Kennett Borough, Kennett Township, Longwood, and the Rt 52 bikeway.

Land Development Updates: No updates related to trails or sidewalks. Ms. Norland pointed out that the Stonehouse trail was completed prior to escrow release.

Land Acquisition Updates: Discussed in executive session.

Other Business:

Ms. McGovern asked if there was anything going on with the Magnolia Underpass. Ms. Norland stated that it is being planned for the 2024 budget for after the Chandler Mill project is completed. There are ongoing talks about an at grade crossing.

Mr. Doehring asked about Birch Street status and whether the Committee would be kept up to date on it or have any opportunity for input since it is fully in the Borough. Ms. Norland stated that the Township has no real recommending power related to Birch Street. The Borough is holding public meetings and working on ROW along the street. Mr. Doehring asked if we knew how they were advertising the meetings, but Ms. Norland only knew because Square Roots received notice as a property owner along Birch Street.

Public meeting adjourned at 1:28 pm and the Committee entered executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

Abbie Kessler, Secretary