

Lower Paxton Township Greenway Committee

Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2021

Members in Attendance

Jim Seidler
Mike Emanuel
Susan Landau

Members Absent

Katie Scheib

Also in Attendance

Rachelle Scott, Staff Liaison
Ken Murin

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Seidler called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm on the above date in Room 174 of the Lower Paxton Township Municipal Center, 425 Prince Street, Harrisburg.

MINUTES

Mr. Emanuel made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2021 meeting and the April 21, 2021 meeting as corrected. There was no meeting in June. Ms. Landau seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

OAK PARK TRAIL Northern Loop

Mr. Seidler presented copies of an updated map and explained that the trail is more difficult to work on than he expected. Recent rains have been helpful in knowing where the creek might be problematic. He has cleared some of the first section, staying 100 feet or more away from property lines. The "S" section is a difficult area; there must be a spring there so he is recommending a raised walkway for a section about 30-50 feet long. There are some sections where the trail will need to be pretty close to the road. Mr. Murin will see if he can find out some information about the stepping-stones at Boyds. The stormwater dissipates quickly along Oak Park Trail and Public Works mows. Mr. Murin noted that this stream is a headwater stream that picks up some stormwater. Since it is under 100 acres, and there aren't any wetlands involved, permits won't be needed to put structures in. The structures need to be well constructed, and allow water to pass through or over top. He would like the committee members to either meet out there or visit on their own to evaluate the trail. Ms. Scott suggested meeting at the Township Building and driving together to the trail on the next meeting date. Mr. Seidler noted that after the committee members see it and can give some input, he would like to invite the neighbors back to talk about it.

Mr. Emanuel noted that there are grape vines that grew like crazy, and he trimmed them back. Mr. Seidler noted the trail will be a full mile when complete. One section is 0.6 miles and the other is 0.4 miles.

Mr. Seidler noted that there is still an abandoned line in the trail area. It has been identified as a Verizon wire (cable), and Mr. Seidler asked Ms. Scott to reach out to see if we can cut the line. Mr. Murin suggested doing a PA One Call, then if no one identifies it as theirs, maybe it can be cut at that time. The proposed bridge and nature trail goes under the line. There is substantial wildlife that use that nature trail.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE DAY

Kohl Park

Mr. Seidler stated that there was about 10 people working there to do some brush clearing. Originally there was about 2 miles of trails, but with the stream work that was done a few years ago, a lot was lost.

He would not suggest working again until the weather is not as bad, and he suggested the next location to work at should be the trail in Forest Hills.

WALKING OPPORTUNITIES BROCHURE

Mr. Seidler noted that the track at Landis Field is open to the public again, so that will need to be updated. The length at Kohl/Lingle is down to about a half mile.

OTHER BUSINESS

CEC's 5K Race

Mr. Seidler stated that the race was July 17th and it went really well. There was a great showing of volunteers, and decent number of runners. Ms. Landau suggested that people with dogs be allowed to participate. Mr. Seidler noted they already can, and maybe it could be added to the flyer.

Stewardship

Mr. Murin asked if a steward would be a sponsor or someone doing maintenance. Mr. Seidler stated it is not defined, and it could be something they talk over in the future. Mr. Emanuel noted that it could be similar to the adopt-a-highway program or campsite stewardship. He noted that boy scouts or other groups might be interested in it too.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting ended at 6:18 pm. The next meeting of the Greenway Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, August 24, 2021, at 5:15 pm in Room 174 of the Municipal Center.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Hiner
Recording Secretary