

Meeting Minutes

Huntingdon County Active Transportation Committee

Friday, August 25, 2023

The Huntingdon County Active Transportation Committee was called to order by Chairman Matt Price at 9:34 A.M. The meeting was in the Huntingdon Borough Municipal Building-Borough Council Chambers, 530 Washington Street, Huntingdon, PA 16652.

Attending:

Matt Price, Jen Bellis, Jayme Reck, Brian Wiser, Mark Lazzari (EADS Group), Barb Hauge (UpStreet Architects, Inc.), John Turack (Penn State Extension), Neal Fogle (Penn State Extension), Chris Stevens, Justinna Brown, Judy Scott, Zach Lee, Laura White, Alisha Grove and Debra Clark-Loner

Not in attendance:

Charles Harper, Wendy Melius and George Conrad

Minutes

Matt Price called the meeting to order at 9:34 A.M. The first item up for review and action were the meeting minutes from August 4, 2023. Matt asked for a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Laura made the motion and Zach seconded it. All were in favor and the motion carried.

The next item up for review/action was Kirby Lockard's April 27, 2023 surveying estimate (approx. \$5,000.00) for Segment 13 of the Main Line Canal Greenway (A segment of the 9/11 National Memorial Trail). HCBI's decision from their August 24, 2023 Board of Directors meeting to assist with funding and other commitments. Matt stated that HCBI approved \$1,700.00 to go towards the survey along with the \$1,700.00 that the Huntingdon County Visitors Bureau previously committed. Huntingdon Borough will make up the difference (approx. \$1,600.00) to assist with having the survey completed. Matt asked who the checks should be made payable to, and Jen said she will check with interim Planning Director Laurie Nearhood as to that information.

Matt mentioned there were some changes made to the Plan after the last meeting, and the Huntingdon County Planning Commission reviewed the updated draft. They had no additional comments or concerns. The EADS group updated the ATC regarding the draft Huntingdon County Active Transportation Plan. They said between the Planning Commission meeting and today's ATC meeting they continued to work on revisions. They added a map showing the school locations, and they also consulted with George on the Strava Heat Map and were able to add it to the Plan. The map shows three different levels

(walking, biking and water). It is a great tool to help give a visual representation of the information presented in the Plan. Matt mentioned that he found an error in the "Public Engagement" section on page 8 where there were some duplicate bullet points that needs corrected. Mark noted this and said they will correct it.

Mark asked what the procedure is for getting the Plan to the Commissioner's for approval since Jim is no longer here. Jen said it would go through the Planning Department office because it would have to be sent to the Chief Clerk by noon on Friday to get put on the Commissioner's meeting agenda for the upcoming Tuesday. The Planning Department and Matt would present the Plan to the Commissioner's seeking their approval. Mark said he would get the Plan in PDF format to Jen by September 8, 2023 by or before noon to get on the Commissioner's September 12, 2023 meeting agenda. Jayme mentioned the resolution is prepared and ready to be presented to the Commissioner's along with the Plan. Mark mentioned he and Sam will need a copy of the signed resolution just for their records. He also mentioned they will be adding an Appendix to the Plan which will include the full survey.

Matt thanked Mark and the EADS Group for all the work they've done. He said he's really impressed with how the Plan turned out and is excited to start implementing it. Matt asked for a motion, knowing that a few minor edits need to be made, that the Committee adopt the Plan and make a recommendation to the Commissioners. Chris made the motion and Laura seconded it.

Next up for discussion was the post-adoption action plan. Pending approval from the Commissioner's at their September 12, 2023 meeting, the ATC will have an official Plan. At that point, it's just a matter of taking it and getting wider adoption. This means presenting it to the Council of Governments meeting, the Township convention and the municipalities at their respective council and supervisor meetings. The ATC is asking the municipalities to adopt the plan by resolution (the ATC will provide a sample resolution) to make this an official Plan of their respective municipality. Matt asked for any volunteers that can help map out where to present it over the next 12 months. Especially getting to the areas that were marked as key target areas. 19 out of the 48 municipalities within the County have been identified for potential projects. Matt would like to start in these areas first. One of the action plans will be to come up with an executive summary and Powerpoint presentation to better streamline presenting the Plan to the different municipalities. Matt mentioned he is happy to work on the presentation piece and has a lot of photos that could be included.

Matt inquired as to how the ATC will go about getting on the Council of Governments and Township Association respective agendas. Jen said the Township Association contact

is Linda Greenland, and Chris said he thought the contact for the Boroughs was Dave Quarry. Jen mentioned that there is a fall conference with the Township Association in October, and she'll be meeting with Linda on Monday evening and could get some details from her about the upcoming conference. Mark mentioned that he could get Matt all the PDF files from the Plan, that way he could add them to the presentation if he wanted to.

Debra suggested getting the presentation recorded and sending it out to the municipalities, and having them play it during their meetings just to make it easier on the group. Then, if the municipalities had any questions the ATC could send an email and respond to their questions. She also feels the ATC needs to meet with Bedford, Blair, Centre and Mifflin counties because they could utilize this information as well. Judy said, with her experience as a Council person, while she understood Debra's suggestion, she feels the municipalities would want to speak with a hands-on person. She feels that just a Powerpoint presentation wouldn't be as effective as an in-person visit. Laura asked if there would be a middle ground where there's a Powerpoint presentation with a live person there at the meeting to follow up if there were any questions. Chris suggested getting something ready, sending it out to the municipalities and if they have questions or would like somebody to be at their meeting someone from the ATC would be available to attend.

The next item up for discussion is PennDOT's 2023 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) Program for Segment 19 of the Main Line Canal Greenway (A segment of the 9/11 National Memorial Trail). Brian said that the TASA is every 2 years and it is already closed for this year. Brian's thoughts are now that the ATC has this Plan, regarding Segment 19, it would be best to update the estimate, formulate teams in each location/municipality and get prepared for the next round of the TASA. Judy mentioned that Alexandria Borough participated in this round of TASA, with the final application being on September 15, but in their preliminary interview review regarding the application, she used some of the data from the Plan with the environmental justice info and she got feedback that Alexandria has been removed from that. So, she was curious about that change. Mark said that Sam Pearson (WalkWorks) said it does change a lot, and Judy mentioned she was told there are certain percentages/numbers they look at. One of Sam's suggestions with the Plan, was to put a date with the maps so it is known which map was being referenced. Barb mentioned PennDOT must already be using the new maps in their evaluation of the program, but Sam gave EADS the impression that WalkWorks isn't going to be using the new maps until next year. Judy said she has a few weeks to revisit certain aspects of her application and can come back with final information. Barb suggested they get with Sam and find out where the new maps are located and Judy could reference that information and make sure it's accurate. Mark said Sam is also really encouraging

municipalities to apply for the Local Share Account Program (LSA) for sidewalk projects. The program opens on September 1, 2023 and closes some time in November 2023.

The ATC was also introduced to Justinna Brown with the AmeriCorps VISTA program. She was posted at Juniata College, but working through Huntingdon County Business and Industry (HCBI) as their Workforce Development Coordinator. In her position, she is trying to find the gaps in the area between workforce, quality of life and connections between organizations. Finding out what's working and what's not working. The overall goal of AmeriCorps VISTA is to alleviate poverty and in general raising the overall economic state of Huntingdon County.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:23 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jayne Reck
Assistant Community Development Administrator

John David Turack 9:45 AM
Link to the current draft plan --

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:f8a88b59-d627-3b73-b09b-3ced7e8d9e64>

Messages addressed to "Meeting Group Chat" will also appear in the meeting group chat in Team Chat

John David Turack 9:51 AM

<https://extension.psu.edu/one-community-many-generations>

<https://extension.psu.edu/one-community-many-generations-guidebook>

Those two links go to another potential follow-up activity individual communities may want to explore.

John David Turack 9:58 AM

Also see --

<https://aese.psu.edu/outreach/intergenerational/curricula-and-activities>

John David Turack 10:08 AM

<https://aese.psu.edu/outreach/intergenerational/curricula-and-activities/intergenerational-activities-sourcebook>

<https://aese.psu.edu/outreach/intergenerational/curricula-and-activities/futures-festival>

More from the Pennsylvania Downtown Center about the Local Share Account --

<https://www.facebook.com/SmartGrowthPartnershipofwestmoreland/posts/pfbid02rRePTF212ahwSn8AyMmGjuYfuhBwULAR6y1tTzcFqJthSBzgqfGrSb1ci2mKS1wE1>