

**Draft Meeting Minutes**  
Huntingdon County Active Transportation Committee  
Friday, May 27, 2022

The Huntingdon County Active Transportation Committee was called to order by Chairman Matt Price at 9:00AM. The meeting was held in the Annex I Building's Conference Room, at 205 Penn Street, Huntingdon PA, 16652.

**Attending:**

Matt Bjorkman (for Zack Lee), Matt Price, Brian Wiser, Judy Scott, George Conrad, Laura White, Alisha Grove (for Wendy Melius), Jane Sheffield (Guest), and James Lettiere.

**Not in attendance:**

Debra Clark, Charles Harper and Jayann Leibley.

**Visitors**

Jane Sheffield, Allegheny Ridge Corporation

**Minutes**

George made a motion to approve the April 8<sup>th</sup> minutes which was seconded by Laura. The minutes were adopted unanimously. The group discussed the need to prepare a draft Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Committee to review, in anticipation of receiving the PA-Walk Works grant. If awarded, the funds can be used to cover fees associated with the preparation of the Huntingdon County Active Transportation Plan.

Matt Price mentioned both Huntingdon and Mill Creek trail connections are owned by PennDOT and the Southern Alleghenies Regional Planning Organization turned down a proposal to make improvements in this area. Jim mentioned the County's candidate listing contained in the updated Southern Alleghenies Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan and mentioned the value of placing potential County projects on this list. Matt Bjorkman noted the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission accepts projects for listing every year and there is an on line form that is used for this process. He stated we can add projects at any time and there is no limit to the number of projects on this list.

Matt Price briefly discussed an article in Trains Magazine that a second service offered by Amtrak would improve service between Pittsburgh and Harrisburg. Jane mentioned the potential need to acquire right-of-way from both Norfolk Southern and PennDOT for 3 bridges that traverse Stone Creek along William Penn Highway. Brian mentioned these areas are in the 100 year floodplain and the areas flood frequently. It was mentioned the 911 alignment can encompass the fire trail between Mount Union and Kistler Borough.

Judy discussed the potential to form a meeting with landowners in Alexandria Borough to discuss trail gaps on the Lower Trail from Alexandria to Petersburg and will be mentioning this with the Borough Council either June 13<sup>th</sup> or June 14<sup>th</sup>. A separate meeting with the land owners may be arranged at a later time.

Jane mentioned the possibility to create a circuit rider position funded by a peer to peer grant between Blair and Huntingdon Counties. She also encouraged we consider adding the Main Line Canal Greenway Trail onto the candidate project listing with Southern Alleghenies. Matt Price summarized some additional projects that warrant further consideration for placement on the candidate projects listing that include:

1. A trail connection from the PA Avenue terminus to Kistler Borough.
2. The fire trail connecting Mount Union and Mapleton Boroughs.
3. Connectivity between William Penn Highway between Mill Creek and the Borough of Huntingdon.
4. Developing a trail along the Penelec right-of-way between Juniata College and Petersburg.
5. Expansions of bike trails on the Lower Trail.
6. Realignment of the Standing Stone Trail.

Jim offered to prepare a listing of potential projects as discussed above. He also said he would like to complement the list with GIS maps utilizing Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission to illustrate the specific areas of these trail gaps and project areas. Some Committee members asked if there is any potential to discuss with the County Commissioners whether they would consider using American Recovery Act funding to assist with preliminary engineering design costs for these projects. Jim suggested that Chairman Price meet privately with the Commissioners to explain the Committee's need for funding which can act as a catalyst to forward these projects along. Jim noted he would request a meeting with Matt and the Commissioners to further discuss this idea.

Jim encouraged Jane Sheffield to join the Committee and noted he will forward her the Volunteer Information request form for processing her appointment to the Committee. Matt Bjorkman stated he will request that Zack Lee send a Doodle Poll to all members to determine the date and time of the next meeting. It was agreed that the Committee should meet near the end of each month on a recurring basis.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:25AM

Respectfully submitted,

James P. Lettiere, AICP/jml  
Planning Director