



In Attendance

Committee Members: Kenneth Kovalchik, Henry Peyrebrune, Anne Benware, Erin Savre, Kristen Ackerman, Laura DiBetta and Fred Schrock.

Police Department – Det. Whitelely and Sergeant Muller
Public – Melody Brennan, Joe Brennan, Sheri Sanduski-Rutherford

The following is a summary from our May 23, 2017 Committee meeting:

Police Department Traffic Safety Updates

- Department received complaints for the intersection of Brockley Drive and Delaware Avenue.
- Department spent a week at the intersection assessing the issue.
- BCSD students are being dropped off on Brockley Drive and cutting across residential properties when walking to Delaware Avenue to cross the street to the high school.
- Hudson Avenue will be used as a detour for the upcoming Delaware Avenue Streetscape Enhancement Project. The Department plans on deploying speed trailers and having additional enforcement on Hudson Avenue during construction, due to anticipated increase in traffic for the detour route.

Planning Department Traffic Safety Updates

- A resident of Salisbury Road sent an email to the Department expressing concern with vehicles speeding and not stopping for stop signs. Resident requested additional police enforcement and painted stop signs on the pavement.
- Construction has started on the Krumkill Road sidewalks, which will be installed from Russell Road to Clifton Way. Construction is expected to be completed by the end of June.

2017 Bethlehem Bike Expo

- The Committee discussed the May 20th event and offered the following comments:
 - a) Overall the event was a success
 - b) For future events on the trail focus should be between Adams Street and Legion. No need to have a station at Gardner Terrace.
 - c) Stewart's site was a little confined and at times had people backed up on rail trail.
 - d) Should try to utilize Community Care parking lot for future events.
 - e) Should add more elements to make the event more of a true "Bike Expo" ie. bike clinics, bike vendors, organizations that focus on bike advocacy, etc.
 - f) Should have more educational materials.
 - g) Bike helmets should have been made available at both the Adams St and Legion locations.
 - h) Number of participants at each station location appeared to be similar to, if not more than, participants that attended prior year events.

Albany County Helderberg Hudson Rail Trail – Slingerlands Trailhead

- Committee discussed the draft considerations for development document prepared by Scott Lewendon and offered the following comments:

Trailhead and Parking Lot Use:

- Short term parking spaces should be designated. County should define short term parking limits ie. 15min, 1 hour, etc.

Safety Concerns and Recommendations

- A member of the public attending the meeting stated there have been dirt bikes on the trail and inquired if additional enforcement could be provided.
- Trail etiquette continues to be an issue. The Committee recommended adding trail etiquette statements on each mile marker post.

Access Recommendations

- If trailhead access at the intersection of Union Avenue and Kenwood Avenue is to be formalized a crosswalk with rapid flashing beacons should be provided across Kenwood Avenue.

Community Integrity Concerns

- The County should contact local groups such as the Pine Hollow Arboretum and Bethlehem Garden Club. The arboretum may be interested in donating landscape materials and the garden club may be interested in donating benches, which can be incorporated into the trailhead improvements.
- Ken K. stated he will draft a letter to Albany County incorporating the comments contained in the draft letter prepared by Scott and comments obtained from the meeting. A copy of the letter will be provided to the Committee prior to sending to the County.

Albany County Helderberg Hudson Rail Trail – 2016 Trail Survey

- Ken K. provided a copy of the 2016 rail trail survey results prepared by CDTC in cooperation with Parks and Trails NY.
- Surveys of trail users were conducted at the South Pearl Street Trailhead and intersection of Adams St and Hudson Ave
- This was the first year for the surveys on the ACHHRT and will be used as a baseline for future surveys.
- Results of the survey indicate an estimated 164,000 users of the trail annually.

Summer Meeting Schedule

- As in previous years the Committee will not hold meetings during the months of July/August.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Next Meeting Tuesday, June 27, 2017, at 6:30 pm in the Town Hall Room 101A.