

Prince William County  
**TRAILS AND BLUEWAYS COUNCIL**

Advisors to the Board of County Supervisors

Meeting Minutes  
 August 23, 2022; 6:30 pm  
**Approved by the T&BC on September 27, 2022**

**Attendance**

District	Appointee	Present (in person)	Present (virtual)	Absent
At Large	Amy Latalladi-Fulton			✓
	Bill McCarty		✓	
Brentsville	Tom Coyle			✓
	Liz Cronauer	✓		
Coles	Mike DePue	✓		
	Joe Marshall	✓		
Gainesville	Duane Martin	✓		
	VACANT			
Neabsco	Jason Williams	✓		
	Rich Wilson	✓		
Potomac	Raheel Sheikh			✓
	VACANT			
Occoquan	Eileen Sheridan	✓		
	Neil Nelson		✓	
Woodbridge	David Brickley	✓		
	Lynda Silverstrand	✓		

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Liz Cronauer at 6:31PM.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Administrative:**

- Motion made to approve the June minutes made by Lynda and seconded by Duane. Passed.
- Motion made to approve the July minutes made by Lynda and seconded by Eileen. Passed.

**Citizen's Time.**

- Charlie Grymes addressed the Council pointing out that the current comprehensive plan has \$5B in new roads and no \$ for new trails. He recommends the T&BC address this.

## County Agency Representatives

### **PWC Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism.** Patti Pakkala

- Significant discussion on Quartz development and public access to trails within. It has a natural trail on the western side of the property that currently does not connect to any outside trails. The rezoning is silent on public access. It goes to the planning commission on September 21<sup>st</sup>.
  - In trying to gain public access to trails, issue with maintenance of trails comes up. When public access is granted, owner attempts to push for Parks/County to assume maintenance. Parks does not have sufficient maintenance funds; they don't push for public access in areas that don't connect to a public facility or planned rec trail. Minnieville Road to back of development – Parks does not have access in hand.
  - Parks is focused on Powerline trails nearby.
  - For Parks, Trails in county system should provide sufficient access and connectivity to public facilities/planned rec trails.
  - TB&C Members stated that the system needs to be “superconnected” where possible.
  - Proffers cannot “require” this in rezonings – county attorneys discourage attempting or wording implying this.
  - It took ten years to get public access in Lake Ridge; previous resolutions from T&BC state that trails developed should have public access. If parks won't work for this, then efforts have been sent back decades.
  - Much of concern with what HOAs will do – they are typically not in existence when property is rezoned and thus not be given power over the rezoning process.
  - Eileen to provide wording for a resolution addressing this at the September 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Belmont Bay rezoning is not inactive awaiting new submission from applicant to address concerns with prior submission
- Overall, Parks is behind on handling zoning requests
- Asked if RAZE grants are coming to PWC – not known

### **PWC Department of Planning.** (no representation)

- Connie Dalton has left her position at the Planning Department. The department is currently shorthanded.
- The 2040 Comprehensive Plans updates were reported as posted on the day of the meeting, but checks showed they were still unavailable. Changes were posted later in that week.

### **PWC Transportation.** George Phillips

- There were two land use changes approved by the BOCS. Transportation is analyzing and expects to have an updated roadway plan by the middle of September with an expected meeting with the Planning Commission on October 24<sup>th</sup>.
- The concept map (hardcopy) and some updated plans was provided from Paolo Belita (Transportation Planning Manager) for the Clover Hill / 234 Bypass Bowtie Intersection.
  - The project was submitted for SMART SCALE evaluation on August 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Funding was requested to fully fund the project (\$23M) – scores will be available in early 2023
  - \$1.9M in existing NVTA Regional Funding will go towards the Design Phase
  - Updates include a sidewalk on the southside and shared use path on the north side of Clover Hill Road.
  - County will work with the City of Manassas on how to tie into the city's existing bicycle / pedestrian infrastructure.

- DOT is finalizing design contract scope of work and will award a project to a consultant sometime this Fall.
- George was asked if any changes will be required for the Router 234 Shared Use Path at this intersection. He did not know. It was recommended that this be included in the design concept.
- There was a question on whether the main intersection could also be made into a round-about. George will supply numbers on volume vs. effectiveness at the next meeting.

### **Presentations/Reports**

#### **New Underpass at I-66 and Manassas Battlefield Park.** Duane Martin

- Took staff from Supervisor Candland, Charlie Grymes and Service Authority personnel on a walkabout from Mayhew Park to the Manassas Battlefield under I-66.
- This is planned to be part of a Fairfax Loop Trail with two crossings over Bull Run – one in the Mayhew Park / Ben Lomond section and one up by Sudley Springs.
- VDOT put in a very nice trail under I-66 with a very good, crushed stone surface. This is the only natural surface trail in PWC that crosses I-66.
- The connecting trail to Mayhew Park and Ben Lomond Park is not passable due to a drainage ditch cut through it with barriers and very large stones lining its 8-foot drop.
- Joe also walked the trail recently but stayed on the utility right of way carefully navigating the eight-foot ditch without moving any of the big rocks.
- There used to be two small bridges farther back from Bull Run – they have been concentrated in one spot, so the other bridge is missing though that crossing is hike-able. A bridge is needed that can be driven over with utility equipment.
- Duane showed a presentation of Karen Jones' and Wendy Miller's photos of the Potomac Heritage Trail Association (PHTA) of the trail between Mayhew Park and I-66. (It is attached to this report)
- They should have a ribbon cutting once the trail is fixed.
- Would like an update on this at the next T&BC meeting.

### **Organization Representatives' Time**

#### **Greater Prince William Trails Coalition (GPWTC).** Eileen Sheridan, Vice Chair, Neil Nelson, Secretary

- Trail Summit: NVRC is planning a Trail Summit on October 20th at their Headquarters in Annandale, VA. Along with GPWTC, attendees will include the National Park Service and many other area organizations. The purpose is to introduce the organizations to each other and discuss ways to coordinate efforts to provide and promote trails in the Northern Virginia.
- Notice going out shortly – will include presentation on Occoquan Greenway and Lunch

#### **Prince William Trails & Streams Coalition (PWTSC).** Jason Williams for Neil Nelson.

- The Occoquan River cleanup will take place on September 24<sup>th</sup>
- A Neabsco Boardwalk cleanup will take place on November 5<sup>th</sup>

#### **Mid Atlantic Off-Road Enthusiasts (MORE).** Jason Williams

- Showed mountain biking video made by MORE highlighting locations in Maryland, Locust Shade, Frederick Watershed and Lake Fairfax. It took over 4 hours to film the Locust Shade section.
- They announced a workday of shoveling dirt coming up at Locust Shade on August 27<sup>th</sup> – 15-16 loads of dirt was delivered to be distributed. Food would be provided.

- An MOU for adding 6-7 miles of trail to Forest Greens GC is in progress.
- There has been significant vandalism and stealing from cars most noticeably at Locust Shade Park – any way to prevent? Put cameras back up?
- MORE wants to be invited to present their annual report with the benefits to Prince William County (15/20 minutes tops)

### **Members' Time:**

- Bill:
  - No comments.
- David:
  - Showed photos from iconic hikes in Norway and an old bridge Luxembourg. He was impressed with the biking capabilities and facilities in Amsterdam.
- Duane:
  - Visited Stanton Island SP – incredible trails with lots of rangers available
  - Visited Otter Creek State Forest in New York – public access with hiking, horses and snowmobiles
  - Asked about Long Creek and its need for fixing creek access – this is awaiting sufficient staff at Parks.
  - Could volunteers help? Still need policy on volunteer help beyond what Janet covers today.
    - Could Parks do maintenance using 501(c)3 (non-profit) organizations?
    - Could Park Foundation be given this to do? Or PWT&S?
- Eileen:
  - No comments
- Jason:
  - Cloverdale Park bridge completed after 3 years – possible ribbon cutting by October. Supervisor Angry working with DPRT to Finish.
  - Jason and Bill McCarty led a group ride on Broad Run from Victory Elementary – there is lots of improvements needed on this section.
- Joe:
  - Spent a week out west visiting his 50<sup>th</sup> National Park (Great Basin NP in Nevada). Also hiked in Lassen Volcanic NP and around Lake Tahoe.
  - At Great Basin NP, saw interlocking 2-foot plastic squares placed on top of gravel to create a very “rollable” accessible trail that handled small elevation well (see photo on next page).



- Also saw new form of trail “flashing” not requiring cutting into trees



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- Hiked McAfee Knob and Dragon’s Tooth in Roanoke area – nice hikes with great views
- Will not be in town for the September 27<sup>th</sup> T&BC meeting. (Hiking in Maine)

- Liz: To follow-up on HOA votes, need a way to work this – who could we talk to?
- Lynda:
  - No comments
- Mike: Revisited stated position on trails. Need to figure out how to get a future reservation – should this be recorded? Ask county attorney. Patti provided an example against this where Youth for Tomorrow took away what was in their proffers and was not pursued to fix.
- Neil:
  - No comments
- Rich:
  - No comments.

**Meeting Recap:**

- None

**Next meeting agenda items:**

- Tim Miner presentation on Dangerous Intersections (holdover)
- New 2040 Comp Plan updates and Maps
- Eileen Resolution on the Quartz District and public access to trails
- I-66 Trails Update
- MORE Annual Report Benefits to PWC
- Other agenda items should be forwarded to Liz by September 14

**Next meetings:**

At Hellwig: Full T&BC – September 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.

**Adjourn:**

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 PM based on motion by Eileen.