

Prince William County  
**TRAILS AND BLUEWAYS COUNCIL**  
 Advisors to the Board of County Supervisors

Meeting Minutes  
 August 22, 2023; 6:30 PM  
**Approved by the T&BC on September 26, 2023**

**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	✓		

Staff persons Patti Pakkala, Bryce Barrett, Yolanda Hipski and DPRT Deputy Director Janet Bartnik were present. Eugene Loew attended virtually.

**Call to Order**

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Administrative:**

- June 27, 2023, T&BC minutes were approved through a motion by Lynda and seconded by Neil.

- The virtual voting resolution that was assembled by Janet (attached) was approved through a motion by Liz and seconded by Neil. It passed by a vote of 6 to 2. There were no T&BC members attempting to participate virtually for this meeting.
- Discussion about virtual voting led to a discussion of its inadequacy to solve the occasional quorum issues since a quorum is required to approve any virtual participation and voting. Many saw this as red tape instead of a solution. This led to a discussion about those members who are not able to attend on a regular basis and thus may be in violation of no more than three absences a year requirement in the bylaws. They should be notified when they reach this number of absences. If the problem persists it is suggested that this needs to be taken forward to the supervisor(s) for resolution. Janet will draft a resolution for the September T&BC meeting to address this.
- There were no minutes available for the August 9<sup>th</sup> Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail (PHNST) Subcommittee meeting to review and approve. Neil promised to make these available before the September T&BC meeting.

#### **Citizen's Time.**

- Charlie Grymes was present and notified the T&BC that the Supervisors have Magisterial money available for small projects through December 31<sup>st</sup>. He mentioned the Discovery Trail sign as an example.
- Charlie also mentioned that Bryce just informed him that an app has been completed to make reports on unsafe intersections and needed safety barriers from the field.

#### **County Agency Representatives**

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

- Patti and Neil talked about the PHNST traversing the rooftop of a new garage in Potomac Shores. Neil has shared pictures in the past. Patti is working to review site plans.
- Eugene will be installing kiosks and sign panels for the Discovery Trail at the Landfill. Kiosks will go at the Ballfield entrance and at the overlook. There will be no signs at Colgan HS and the Benton entrance will be marked for student use only to access the outdoor classrooms. The plan is for all utility work to be done soon so that the trail can be reconnected with a Grand Opening in October. The connection to the east side will probably be put off until newly acquired land is put in use as a park.
- A new planner, David Kramer, will be starting with DPRT shortly. He is slated to move into trail planning initiatives taking over some efforts from Patti.
- Bryce and Patti will be attending a Strategic Planning Workshop sponsored by Virginia Walkability, who funded an earlier grant.
- Doves Landing Master Plan detail work is continuing to prioritize efforts and scope on both sides of the river.
- Patti will cover the Tanyard Hill Occoquan update at the September meeting.

##### **PWC Transportation.** Bryce Barrett

- Bryce brought up several diagrams of the Sudley Manor / 234 Bypass interchange and discussed this intersection. These represent very early concept diagrams. The intersection involves Bethlehem Road and a new alignment. The Innovation Town Center is located to the east of the 234 Bypass and affects the planning.
- There will be a Shared Use Path (SUP) along Bethlehem and along Sudley Manor. There will be one that runs parallel to the bypass along the western side of the town center, but it will not reach University due to a drainage pond. It was discussed that more needs to be added to the

overpass so that a SUP can be added later. Wellington will be right-side in and right-side out with no left turns; left turns will be realized using the parallel roads and Bethlehem. There is no right of way north of Sudley Manor on Bethlehem Road since this would only be for safety even though it is in the Comp Plan. To get to Wellington, one may have to use Hornbaker from 28.

- Car Free Day is set for September 22<sup>nd</sup>. There will be prizes for some who make the car free pledge for that day.
- The pedestrian bridge is up at the 234 – Brentsville interchange. It went very easy realizing some cost savings.
- Bryce brought up screen shots of the new app that Charlie mentioned earlier. It will focus originally on schools, libraries and parks and allow the public to input needs directly through entering data and taking photos onsite. Data will go directly to the RSIS database.
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### **Presentations/Reports.**

#### **Blueways Opportunities.** Mike DePue

- Mike reviewed the past meetings and went over the value of the sites on the map. He discussed how it was important to put together trips that went from point A to point B to really attract users. Some starting points were mentioned as property along the old General Ridge GC or at the Orchard Bridge.
- Patti asked for recommendations on access points – including how many parking spaces would be needed – this would allow her to set goals for acquisitions and CIPs.
- Bull Run Marina was identified as the best spot for many trips but its \$150 key fee from Fairfax was a big detractor. An idea to buy a set of keys and manage them through a library or other PWC county entity could provide some short-term relief.
- A second place along the Potomac to put in and take out (Possum Point?) was also discussed. The third place is for trips along Broad Run.
- Other groups should be referenced for their experience in building access points. It was also suggested that carts with locks that could be rented may allow longer journey from car to water.
- Mike will look for potential areas and indicate paddling time or distance to help set the goals.
- This will be further discussed at the September meeting.

#### **PHNST Subcommittee.** Jason Williams

- No report this month – next meeting on September 20<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM.

#### **I-66 Underpass Dedication Ceremony – Duane**

- Duane was absent so this discussion will be moved to the September meeting.

### **Organization Representatives' Time**

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

- The next quarterly meeting will be October 24<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM and be in conjunction with the annual NVRC Trails Summit.

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

- On July 9<sup>th</sup> there was a second Sunday hike on the Broad Run Trail.
- The Occoquan cleanup is scheduled for September 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- A paddle from the Lake Jackson dam to the Bull Run Marina will occur in late October.
- A Neabsco cleanup will be scheduled in November.

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

- Nothing to Report

**Members' Time:**

- Amy:
  - Thanks to Mike for the Blueways presentation.
- Bill:
  - Not present.
- David:
  - Not present.
- Duane:
  - Not present.
- Eileen:
  - Eileen discussed a resolution she is working on from the PHNST S/C meeting.
- Jason:
  - Jason has noticed that a lot of trees have been finding our trails to fall on.
- Joe:
  - Nothing to report.
- Liz:
  - Liz passed out a sheet showing trail projects that might be used as a start for a spreadsheet to support specific projects to our supervisors instead of waiting for bond funding to come around. Perhaps each district could prioritize the top ones for consideration and include ground truth for those being pushed. This would be in coordination with DPRT and Transportation.
- Lynda:
  - Lynda is still collecting a lot of stuff from the Bandalong. Since her contact is retiring, she will need a new contact for this. She wondered if a drone could be used to locate where all the trash is coming from upriver.
- Mike:
  - Thanks to Amy.
- Neil:
  - Neil observed a box turtle crossing the new Hedges Run bridge even before the bridge is officially open.
- Raheel:
  - Not present.
- Rich:
  - Not present.
- Tom:
  - Not present.

**Meeting Recap:**

- None

**Next meeting agenda items:**

- Duane – I66 dedication ceremony
- Patti – Tanyard Hill status
- Mike – Resolution about blueway targets

- Jason - PHNST subcommittee status
- Janet - Attendance summary and resolution
- Agenda items for the September meeting should be forwarded to Liz, Amy, or Joe by September 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Next meetings:**

At Hellwig: PHNST Subcommittee – September 20<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM

At Hellwig: Full T&BC – September 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.

**Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 9:02 PM based on motion by Lynda, second by Mike.