

# Prince William County

## TRAILS AND BLUEWAYS COUNCIL

Advisors to the Board of County Supervisors

### Meeting Minutes March 30, 2021; 6:30 pm

#### Attendance

District	Appointee	Present (in person)	Present (virtual)	Absent
At Large	Amy Latalladi-Fulton	✓		
	Ed Dandar		✓	
Brentsville	VACANT			
	VACANT			
Coles	Mike DePue		✓	
	VACANT			
Gainesville	Duane Martin	✓		
	Ben Smith	✓		
Neabsco	Aleta Daniels		✓	
	Jason Williams	✓		
Potomac	Chris Caseman			✓
	VACANT			
Occoquan	Eileen Sheridan	✓		
	Neil Nelson	✓		
Woodbridge	David Brickley			✓
	Lynda Silverstrand	✓		

#### Call to Order

#### Pledge of Allegiance

#### Administrative Items

#### Citizens

#### Presentation Items/Reports

**Approval of February Meeting Minutes.** Minutes of the February meeting were approved.

**Administrative Items.**

**Citizens Time.**

*John Maher.* The Parks Department is not compliant with its published trails standards, particularly as it pertains to trail maintenance. Would like to see a county plan to deal with invasive species; trails contribute to spread of invasive species (carried by wildlife, attached to clothes, people pick flowers, etc.). Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) has a book out on state standards for trails. May be a starting point for Prince William County.

*Jared Holmes,* Lake Ridge resident. Would like to see the county improve its trail system. Suggested looking at Fairfax County's trail network for ideas.

**County Agency Representatives' Time**

**PWC Parks, Recreation and Tourism.** Brendon Hanafin.

- Completing design on some trails and identifying trail projects for next year's budget.
- Working with Mobility Chapter. Public input sessions last week (March 23-25); well-attended.
- [Alex Vanegas]: meetings covered East – West – and Central County.
- Meeting next week to schedule Mobility discussions. Will look at trails, transit, and road/pedestrian/bicycle facilities.
- Also working on Triangle Small Area Plan – incorporating last rounds of comments and expect to release it next week.
- [Brendon] Plan is under review for the second boardwalk at Neabsco, extension through Metz. Trying to get into procurement by the end of the fiscal year, June 30. The project will add about a mile of boardwalk.
- Groundproofing the Powell's Creek boardwalk extension, from Leesylvania to Potomac Shores.
- At Occoquan Bay, the section along the refuge drive has been completed. The design is back for the section between the refuge and Veterans Memorial Park; will be completed by the end of April.
- Occoquan Greenway Section 3 is in plan review; construction will begin after start of new fiscal year July 1.
- Requested \$1.5M from the Park bond and additional funding via a state grant to complete Featherstone.
- The only new projects in the Capital Improvement Program this year will be bond projects. If the budget is approved, we will be able to start the design of Powell's Creek, start the design of the Hooes Run section of the Occoquan trail, and potentially Featherstone.
- Hoping to get the Building Facility Projects fund restored to provide funding for additional projects.

**PWC Department of Planning.** Connie Dalton.

- The best source for announcements of upcoming planning sessions is the PWC Alerts email subscription at the county website.
- On March 16, the Board of County Supervisors voted to approve the Independent Hill Small Area Plan.
- The Route 29 SAP is being updated and will probably be brought to the BOCS in May.
- Eileen: wording of online surveys may not adequately promote trails.

**Transportation.** Brendon Hanafin.

- Working with Parks on the Mobility Chapter update.
- No update on hiring a new bike/ped coordinator.

**P-1 Special Election.**

- Amy Latalladi-Fulton will remain as Chair.
- Neil Nelson will serve as Vice Chair.
- ***Duane Martin moved that the Trails and Blueways Council appoint Amy Latalladi-Fulton as Chair and Neil Nelson as Vice Chair. Eileen Sheridan seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

**P-2 Work Session Outcomes.**

- Largely covered during county time.
- Nine breakout sessions. Results will be collated and posted to the Pathway to 2040 website (<https://www.pwcgov.org/government/dept/planning/Pages/Pathwayto2040.aspx>).

**P-3 Building Trails Under Powerlines.** Jason Williams

- [Brendon Hanafin] Dominion Energy has a program for using power line easements for trails.
- Generally requires separation from any motorized (maintenance) trail, so new trail would need to be built.
- [Jason presented slides]
- Water/sewer utilities may be more open to sharing existing trail space.
- Volunteers will likely be responsible for maintaining trails.

**P-4 PW Prevention Alliance Challenge Walk.** Eileen Sheridan

- Has been renamed to the Prince William Prevention Coalition.
- Still trying to structure the walk/challenge portion.
- Neil Nelson will discuss with Prince William Trails and Streams Coalition.
- Seeking 501(c)(3) partner as sponsor to secure liability insurance.
- Targeting a window from National Prevention Week (May 9-15) to National Trails Day (June 5).

## **Organization Representatives' Time**

**Greater Prince William Trails Coalition.** Eileen Sheridan.

- Next quarterly meeting is April 15.
- Gerry Connolly will be the keynote speaker.
- Charlie Grimes: Expecting also a presentation from Seth Hendler-Voss on the significance of trails in the Mobility Chapter.
- Will discuss aspirational trail map.

**Prince William Trails & Streams Coalition.** Neil Nelson.

- Had a successful Neabsco cleanup March 13 with the Soil and Water Conservation District and Woodbridge Potomac Communities Civic Association.
- 60-70 volunteers collected 150 bags, 30 tires, many large items.
- No Occoquan cleanup scheduled for April.

## **Members' Time:**

- Lynda – trying to find volunteers to pull 20 tires from townhouse community off Rippon Blvd (Refuge Ct). Need to bring up the hill and leave on curb so they can be hauled away.
- Duane – forwarded pics from the trail system in Silver Lake and Dominion Valley. Explored new trail by Waterfall Road. Bull Run Trail under I-66 is not open yet.
- Neil –took another group out to look at the bridge site and new trail sections at Hedges Run last Friday. Need to mark out the bridge location so people can visualize it better.
- Eileen – there is an Occoquan district townhall scheduled for April 8.
- Jason – Locust Shade has a trail works day scheduled this Saturday 0830-1200.

**Recap:** For next meeting, discussion of potential plastic bag tax.

**Next meeting – Apr 27**

**Adjourn** Meeting adjourned at 8:34