# Prince William County TRAILS AND BLUEWAYS COUNCIL

Advisors to the Board of County Supervisors

## Meeting Minutes September 27, 2022; 6:30 pm Approved by the T&BC on October 25, 2022

### Attendance

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

Staff persons Patti Pakkala and Bryce Barrett were present as well as Kevin Costello, the new director of Tourism. Michele Burton, the Program Manager for the Community Healthcare Coalition of Greater Prince William (CHCGPW) attended virtually.

#### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Amy Latalladi-Fulton at 6:32PM.

#### Pledge of Allegiance

#### Administrative:

• Motion to approve the August minutes made by Liz and seconded by Duane. Passed.

#### Citizen's Time.

• Charlie Grymes addressed the Council. He recommended that Council members participate in the DPRT Bus tour of the parks next year.

#### **County Agency Representatives**

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

- Staffing update: Ed Deleon has been hired as a new Project Manager, and Meghan Tate has been hired to the Land Acquisition position. She will be conducting a gap analysis.
- Digital Gateway Trails:
  - Showed Map of Digital Gateway 2000 acres with greenways and trails on Catharpin Creek and on Little Bull Run. The Little Bull Run Trail has been extended up to Fairfax County.
  - Duane brought up that the trails in the stream valleys can be difficult to maintain and offered citizen expertise to help map out sustainable routes. Patti said that in the past mistakes were made because there was a lack of manpower to review the proffered locations but that was no longer an issue, and that the County was asking for wider Resource Protection Areas which would facilitate finding good trail locations.
  - More detail is available in the DAPS reports although they are hundreds of pages.
  - $\circ$   $\;$  David suggested that a Master Plan might be appropriate for such a large area.
  - It was noted that the CPA has not been approved yet and recommended that the T&BC reach out to the BOCS to request support for the trails as laid out by staff.
- Dove's Landing Master Plan is going to the BOCS on October 11. There have been some negative citizen comments regarding potential increase in the traffic on Dove's Lane and against the boating access.
- Silver Lake Park is starting the master plan process. There will be a community meeting towards the end of October.
- 2019 Bond fund status: DPRT is preparing to start issuing Bond funds. They have until 2026 to spend the money.

#### PWC Department of Planning. Bryce Barrett

- The Planning Commission public hearing on the Mobility Chapter, as well as the Land Use, Housing, and Electrical Utility Chapters of the Plan will be on September 28. They plan to add a table of Greenway and Blueway trails to the Mobility Chapter.
- The Master Plan hearing for Ellis Baron Park is September 29. This urban park is planned to have a perimeter fitness loop.

#### PWC Transportation. Bryce Barrett

- (Note: This conversation took place earlier in the meeting) Duane commented that the T&BC often
  only learns about trails related to transportation projects or affected by utility work by other
  departments after designs and budgets are more or less set in stone and asked if T&BC could be
  briefed on all projects that were anywhere in the Transportation system? Eileen asked if
  Transportation had DAPS reports? Bryce said that he would talk to other agencies and that they
  work closely with other County departments, but that the quarterly report is the closest available
  thing to an upcoming project summary.
- I-95 / Prince William Parkway Interchange pedestrian project:
  - Bryce will share the design with the T&BC.
  - Hoadly Road shared use path CMAQ funds were moved to the above project to close a funding gap. The Hoadly Road project, which had been approved for \$2m in 2016 (new

estimated cost is \$9m) is now "off the table". It was pointed out that there is a church (Immanuel's Mission Outpost) under construction on Hoadly Road and there did not appear to be an attempt by the County to acquire right of way or build a section of the planned shared use path. Note: subsequent to the meeting, Bryce sent the proffer statements for the church which stated that at a future time the church may be asked to give the County the right of way for a trail along Hoadly Road at no cost to the County.

- Clover Hill / 234 Bypass Interchange project:
  - Bryce pointed out that there are resources on VDOT's website involving the different types of innovative intersections, including bowties and roundabouts, that included appropriate conditions for their application.
  - Bryce stated that Paolo Belita was trying to ensure that the 234 Bypass Shared Use Path was included in the project.

#### Presentations/Reports

#### Quartz Development Plan Resolution: Eileen

• Resolution to the BOCS to request trails in the Quartz development be open to the public passed unanimously with only slight amendments.

#### 2040 Mobility Chapter Trail – August 2022 Update: Liz

- In June, the Council sent a map and spreadsheet with 57 requested changes to staff and the BOCS. While several things that the Council requested, such as the Kettle Run and Cedar Run Blueways, were added to the plan, most of the items were not added and there are several things that were removed from the previous version. The attached spreadsheet shows the status of the requests and the additional changes.
- One particular change was discussed in more detail: the removal of bike lanes on Groveton Road and Featherbed Lane. These are important because they provide rare connectivity between areas north and south of I-66. Bryce said they were removed because the Manassas Battlefield does not allow bikes. It was pointed out that the bikes would be within the VDOT right-of-way.

#### **Organization Representatives' Time**

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

- Trail Summit: The October 20<sup>th</sup> Trail Summit with NVRC at their Headquarters in Annandale, VA currently has 44 people registered to attend. More information and registration can be found at this link: <u>Northern Virginia Recreational Trails Summit Registration (google.com)</u>
- GPWTC is becoming a non-profit.
- The second Sunday hike will be on October 9<sup>th</sup> at Bloom's Park in Manassas.

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

- 80 people attended the Occoquan River cleanup on September 24<sup>th</sup>. They collected 67 bags of trash and 47 tires. Bill remarked that the 5-mile stretch of river in the vicinity of Riverview Estates was surprisingly clean.
- The Neabsco Cleanup will be on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

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

- Jason said that the improvements on the trails at Locust Shade Park have made them safer, especially for young riders and that the jump line is becoming extremely popular.
- They built fords of natural flagstone in the creeks, and these are very attractive.
- They are still waiting for the MOU for volunteers to work at Forest Green and Locust Shade Parks to be approved by the County.
- Mr. Fernandez from MORE will give an overview of their progress on trails in the County at the October T&BC meeting.

#### Members' Time:

- Jason:
  - $\circ$   $\;$  The ribbon cutting for the Cloverdale bridge and trail will be re-scheduled for early Spring.
  - Dominion Power is planning to upgrade the power lines near Lindendale/Andrew Leitch.
- Bill: No comments
- David:
  - Showed photos of a spectacular pedestrian bridge that he visited this month in Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia, that looks like a woven wave. He said the public loves it. He also showed a photo of a mountain top city in Azerbaijani.
  - He and two other organizations are filing suit against the State of Maryland because at the last minute they have omitted the bike/ped component of the bridge replacement project for Route 301 crossing the Nice River.
- Duane:
  - No progress has been made on cleanup of the trail through Mayhew Park and under I-66.
  - The roads at Silver Lake Park were paved with speed bumps. It is part of the trail system in the park, but no accommodation was made for pedestrians and horses. Patti said they would look at ways to fix that in the upcoming master plan.
  - He participated in a horse race at Sandy Point State Park.
- Eileen: No comments
- Liz: No comments
- Neil:
  - Bridge contractor has been selected for the 120' bridge over Hedges Run on the Occoquan Greenway. Construction should start in November.
  - DPRT is still working on the Hooes Run crossing.
- Amy: No comments

#### Meeting Recap:

None

#### Next meeting agenda items:

- MORE Annual Report Benefits to PWC
- Other agenda items should be forwarded to Liz by October 11

#### Next meetings:

At Hellwig: Full T&BC – October 25th at 6:30 PM.

#### Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned at 8:54 PM based on motion by Eileen, second by Duane