# Prince William County TRAILS AND BLUEWAYS COUNCIL

Advisors to the Board of County Supervisors

# Meeting Minutes September 23, 2025; 6:30 PM

# **Attendance**

District	Appointee	Present (in person)	Present (virtual)	Absent
At Large	Amy Latalladi-Fulton	✓		
	Bill McCarty	✓		
Brentsville	Liz Cronauer (CHR)	✓		
	Vacant			
Coles	Mike DePue	✓		
	Joe Marshall	✓		
Gainesville	Duane Martin			✓
	Ken Johnson	✓		
Neabsco	Jason Williams	✓		
	Rich Wilson			✓
Occoquan	Eileen Sheridan			✓
	Neil Nelson (SEC)	✓		
Potomac	Vacant			
	Kimberly Palacios	✓		
Woodbridge	David Brickley	✓		
	Lynda Silverstrand			✓

Staff persons present: Janet Bartnik, Robert Boyd, Yolanda Hipski; Bryce Barrett and Patti Pakkala attended virtually.

# **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Liz at 6:30 PM.

# **Pledge of Allegiance**

## **Administrative:**

- Minutes of the Aug 26 TBC meeting were approved (motion: Ken; 2<sup>nd</sup> Jason)
- Acceptance of July 17 PHNST Subcommittee Notes accepted (motion: David; 2<sup>nd</sup> Neil)

#### Citizen's Time.

- Russell Bryant: The CIP process is kicking off and the County Executive will call for inputs, including a review of last year's CIP and updates. TBC has the opportunity to advocate to their District supervisor and to the At-Large supervisor.
- Brodie Freer (Chair, Parks & Rec Commission) mentioned that the 4<sup>th</sup> annual park tour was on Sep 13. At the Commission meeting on Oct 15, 7:00 pm, DPR will provide a presentation on the Trails Master Plan; TBC members are invited to attend the meeting.

#### **County Agency Representatives**

#### PWC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR). Rob Boyd

- Segment 2 bridge is open, Occoquan Greenway Trail
- Update on boardwalk project connection from Neabsco Boardwalk to Leesylvania State Park: will release request for bids on the first section within the month. Construction in early spring, about 600 linear feet. Specs for the helical piers / piles caused increase in price. Need \$2.9 million to complete the project.
- There will probably be a change order to the contract for the PHNST segment in Featherstone NWR; piles to support the boardwalk have to go deeper than planned (up to 40 ft). Work is delayed.

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

- preparing Comp Plan Amendment for Rt 28 to remove the bypass, and add a path along Flat branch. Will bring it to the Planning Commission this winter. Will re-direct some funding to Rt 28 corridor improvements. Will include SUP on Rt 28. Can money be redirected to Flat Branch trail? It depends on where it came from - grant funds or Federal funds would have to be used for a similar project.
- Completed a road diet project on Apollo Drive converted on-street parking to striped buffered bike lanes.
- Will have bike rodeo at Safety Expo on Oct 4 at the Count complex; 9 bikes were donated; police will assist with teaching safe riding.

**PWC Planning, Yolanda Hipski** – Urban Land Institute / Technical Assistance Program report on Sudley Road redevelopment corridor will be published and sent out to stakeholders.

#### **Community Development Applications, Robert Boyd**

- Belmont Bay There will be an easement on land to be dedicated to the HOA, which will allow a
  connection between the larger open parcels to be dedicated as public parks. Will also have
  easement for public access to all existing cart paths. 95 acres to be dedicated to PWC, with
  conservation easement on land going to parks; but need to coordinate terms of the
  conservation easement so it aligns with parks master plan.
- Vint Hill rezonings potential for connection to Broad Run Greenway. Two applications on the
  north side of Vint Hill Rd are in review. They are dedicating trails & open space. Includes
  connection between Broad Run to future Kettle Run trail. Yolanda said there will be a meeting
  on Nov 17, to introduce the plan to develop the Small Area Plan, to let the community know
  what the project is.
- Bridge on Rocky Branch delivery was delayed, coming in Oct.

#### **Business Items:**

- Prioritization of Trail Projects by District. District reps presented their updated list of projects.
   The consolidated list is attached. In discussion of projects on Hoadly Road, Bryce stated that it is a county priority for safety and bike/pedestrian improvements. First draft of the Hoadly Rd STARS study report should be available this winter.
- From the consolidated list of projects, three were identified as the top priorities:
  - PHNST connection from Neabsco Boardwalk to Leesylvania State Park (6 votes)
  - Flat Branch trail / SUP (5 votes)
  - Improve Bull Run trail to Manassas battlefield (3 votes) (Ben Lomond Park to Manassas Battlefield)
  - The Sinclair Mill boat launch was in the top three (4 votes), but removed because Patti said it will be covered with grant funding, as well as cost of stream crossing to the Preserve at Long Branch. Discussions with the developer on proffers continue.
- Resolution 25-16, REQUEST FOR VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY FUNDING OF THE POTOMAC
  HERITAGE NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL AND WASHINGTON ROCHAMBEAU ROUTE IN PRINCE
  WILLIAM COUNTY was reviewed and approved (motion: Amy; 2<sup>nd</sup> Ken)
- Ken asked that we include a discussion of trails signs in next month's meeting agenda
- Trails Master Plan Update / Next Steps. Will separate out sidewalks. Will add rough numbers for cost; all items on TBC list of district projects should be in Trails Master Plan. Patti stated DPR will be estimating only what planned surface would cost. Will have 132 segments on recreation side. Will not include cost of acquisition or easement, or other barriers to construction. Could do deeper dive into the priorities, a smaller list. Will group into buckets short range, mid-term, & long term, as in the Parks Master Plan. Janet says process will change this year:
  - before: Staff puts together CIP list for County Executive, who presents recommendations to BOCs. Then BOCS weighs in and sometimes goes in completely different direction. This could be inefficient.
  - o this year the County Executive will engage staff and BOCs in rating projects.
- public survey is open on the Countywide Trails Master Plan
- DPR will undertake extensive publicity campaign to get responses set up tent at boardwalk, post signs and flyers, hand out cards, be present at events (Ken suggested Haymarket Day on Oct 18). Will help us with publicity at an event we sponsor. QR codes will enable DPR to track where responses came from.
- Public meeting will be in 2nd week of November.
- Janet reminded us that there has been no CIP funding for parks except through the 2019 bond.
- **Blueways Time** criteria for distance between launches. Discussion was limited due to time. Mike said one factor is that a paddler averages 3 miles per hour on flat water. Neil pointed out that multiple access points are desirable for out-and-back trips; not all trips are from one point to another. Kimberly asked that Blueways be on the agenda for Oct.

#### Presentations/Reports.

Capital Construction Restructure Update, Janet Bartnik. With the restructuring / consolidation of projects under Transportation, the same people would be doing the work, just from a different department. Will be a new department of Transportation & Capital Projects, encompassing projects of

Public Works, DPR, Transportation. Still in discussion about which staff would move, and which projects would be taken over by the new dept.

## **Organization Representatives' Time**

Greater Prince William Trails Coalition (GPWTC). No update

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

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday hike October 12, Manassas National Battlefield Park.
- Occoquan cleanup, Sep 27

Mid Atlantic Off-Road Enthusiasts (MORE). No update

Members' Time: postponed

# **Meeting Recap:**

## **Next meetings:**

- Parks & Rec Commission meeting on TBC meeting on Oct 15
- TBC meeting on Oct 28, 6:30 pm
- PHNST subcommittee meeting on Nov 19, 2:00 pm

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 9:22 PM