

Meeting Report: Ma and PA Community Greenway Feasibility Study
Red Lion Borough Community Focus Group

Date: April 28, 2009
Time: 6:00 PM
Location: York Township Municipal Building
Project No.: 08MPR-01
By: Ann Yost

Persons Attending: Sandra Graham, resident
Tom Maher, resident
David Laucks, resident
Tina Frutiger, Borough Council
Robert Frutiger, Mayor
Dennis Klinedinst, Borough Council
Pauline Klinedinst, resident
Phil Golden, resident
Ann Heister, resident
Brooks Thompson, resident
Ann Toole, Toole Recreation Planning
Chuck Strodoski, YSM
Ann Yost, YSM

Meeting Purpose: To explore ideas, opportunities, and issues regarding use of the historic Ma & Pa rail corridor for a recreation trail.

Of Record:

1. A. Yost began the meeting with introductions of the consultant team.
2. A. Yost defined the purpose of the Ma & Pa Community Greenway Feasibility Study, the purpose of the Community Focus Group meetings in each municipality, and identified the geographic limits of the study area. The three perspectives of feasibility to be explored as part of the project include 1) legal feasibility, 2) physical feasibility, and 3) operations and management feasibility.
3. The planning process was described which seeks input from the public through:
 - Working with a Study Committee
 - Surveys of attendees at community focus groups and municipal officials.
 - Key person interviews

- Two public meetings – one was held in January and one will be held mid-way through the planning process
 - Open house
4. A. Yost provided a summary of the work completed to date:
 - Kick off meeting and goal setting with the Study Committee
 - Public meeting in January.
 - Legal Feasibility – The railroad right of way has been formally abandoned and the land of the right-of-way has reverted to the contiguous property owners.
 - Physical Feasibility – Site analysis has been completed for the entire corridor study area. There are issues to be addressed such as road crossings and stream crossings but the existing physical setting of the former rail bed is compatible with conversion to a recreation trail.
 4. There were no public comments or questions.
 5. A. Yost presented a PowerPoint overview of benefits of community trails. Information provided was based on the 2007 Users Survey and Economic Impact Analysis of The York County Heritage Rail Trail, as it is a well known local trail. The presentation included statistics on trail users, typical times of trail use, safety and security, economic impact. The survey can be viewed at www.yorkcountyparks.org.
 6. A. Toole described the hands-on portion of the focus group asking attendees to gather around the maps provided and explore opportunities and issues associated with the project study corridor in Red Lion Borough. Attendees broke into two groups to complete the exercise and mark-up the maps provided. Specifically, attendees were asked to identify known opportunities relative to extending the Red Lion Mile north and south. Where obstacles were identified options for work-arounds were explored. Concerns such as traffic, road crossings, and close proximity to existing structures were noted on the plans. Alleys and potential easements were discussed.
 7. Attendees were thanked for their time and input on the project.