

**East Bradford Township  
Trails Committee  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
May 25, 2023**

The East Bradford Township Trails Committee convened on Thursday, May 25, 2023 at 12:00 noon in the Township Building at 676 Copeland School Road, West Chester, PA 19380. The agenda was posted on the website ([www.eastbradford.org](http://www.eastbradford.org)) prior to the meeting and on the front door at the Township Building.

**Committee members present:**

Linda Barchet, Maria Kenny, Chair, Betsey Mehl, Jacob Singer, Vice -Chair, Rebecca Smith, Andrew Schaum, Jane Scriptunas, Jim Wakefield

**Committee members absent:**

John Spangler

**Staff/Professionals present:**

Rich Phifer, Director of Property & Recreation  
Tenley Adams, Secretary  
Mandie Cantlin, Township Manager

**Others in attendance:**

Sheila Fleming

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes from the March 23, 2023 meeting was motioned by Mr. Singer. The motion was seconded by Ms. Barchet, with all in favor. No meeting was held in April.

**MERCER'S MILL TRAIL UPDATE**

Mr. Phifer updated the Trails Committee on the trail plan and bridge over the creek. He recently learned that the drainage area for the creek is 173 acres and that the project would require obtaining a DEP Joint Permit, which will require more engineering and design with costs upwards of \$100,000. The original budget for the design and permitting aspects of the project was \$15,000. Mr. Phifer will discuss this with the Board of Supervisors but believes that the Mercer's Mill Community may have explore alternate options for the trail / creek crossing.

**2023 TRAIL BLAZER RUN**

Mr. Phifer said that everything is going well in preparation for the race. He has plenty of volunteers and pre-registration numbers are good for this point in May. He expects that the number of participants will be 200+ again this year. Mr. Schaum asked about marketing for the event and if social media is being used. Mr. Phifer said that he is limited in his ability to market the race on social media as the Township currently only has a Facebook account and doesn't have a dedicated marketing person. The Township does utilize its website, Facebook, and advertising in some of the local publications to market the Trail Blazer Run. Yard signs and posters are also placed around the Township. Ms. Smith said that she can help spread word of the event through some social media channels that she has access to.

**STARR FARM PARK TRAIL & PARKING CONCEPTS**

Mr. Phifer updated the committee that the Board of Supervisors agreed to two mid-block pedestrian crossings on Skelp Level Road: one at the driveway entrance that serves the Township's pole barn and the second at the intersection of Harmony Hill Road and Skelp Level Road. For the first mid-block crossing, the bank on the west side will need to be graded down a

little to allow for better site distance. Once the crossings are delineated and the bank is graded, the trails will be mowed on the west side. Mr. Phifer is hopeful that this will be completed by the end of July. The Eagle Scout trail project on the west side that will connect the Brandywine Trail to the Starr Farm Park field complex is scheduled to be completed by the end of July as well. The parking lot will be expanded and will hopefully be completed by late fall.

#### **LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR BCG MINI GRANT**

Mr. Phifer said that originally, he was going to apply for a Brandywine Creek Greenway Mini Grant for the Mercer's Mill Trail Project, but since that doesn't look feasible at this moment, he decided to use the grant opportunity for the Brandywine Water Trail signage that will be placed at Shaw's Bridge Park. He showed samples of the signage that will be consistent through the planned Water Trail network. Mr. Schaum motioned that the Trails Committee endorses the Mini Grant for the Water Trail, and that the Trails Committee authorizes Chairperson Kenny to sign the drafted letter of support. The motion was seconded by Mr. Singer, with all in favor.

#### **SUBDIVISION LAND DEVELOPMENT REVIEW**

SD # 656 – 940 Hillsdale Road, two lot subdivision. No comments.

SD #657 – 558 Highland Road, Holy Ascension Church land development.

Mr. Singer commented that Highland Road is very narrow through that area and wondered if anything could be done to widen the roadway. Ms. Cantlin said that they will have to reopen a Zoning Hearing Board special exception/variance and at that time the roadway could be reviewed. No other comments were made.

#### **TENLEY ADAMS – RETIREMENT**

After 33 years of service, Tenley Adams is retiring from East Bradford Township where she has been helping the Trails Committee for many years with different aspects of supporting and managing trails. Mr. Phifer talked about everything she has done over the years and the Trails Committee wishes her all the best in her retirement. Mrs. Adams thanked them for the well wishes and said that working with the parks and trails was one of the more enjoyable roles she had while working for the Township and will miss that the most.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

None

**ADJOURN:** On motion of Ms. Kenny, seconded by Mr. Singer, the meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm with all in favor.

**NOTICE:** The next meeting of the Trails Committee is scheduled for Thursday, June 22, 2023, at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Tenley F. Adams  
Secretary