

**Marsh Creek Greenway  
Trail Advisory Council  
January 18, 2023**

**Attendees: Deb Bigley, Marc Rice, Kaye Aumick, Louis Rachiele, Julie Henry, Tim Morey, Brian Kennedy, Skip Cavanaugh, Terry Borneman, Kristin Hamilton, Aaron Crist, Linda Stager, and Erica Tomlinson**

Deb Bigley opened the meeting at 8:30 AM. Introductions were given.

**Public Comments:** None

Notes were reviewed from the last meeting (October) with no changes.

**Chamber/Borough/Develop Tioga/GROW:**

- Julie (Chamber) – Business as usual; working on several projects. Winter Celebration is coming soon; February 10 – 12.
- Kristin (Develop Tioga) – Receiving variety of calls from businesses. Kristin stated that there will be local training coming in February for Tioga Works. Discover Tioga mobile app will be going live soon. She is asking that everyone go out and take a look and feedback is appreciated. There will be a large variety of listings. This app will be used by current residents of the county, as well as visitors and new comers.
- Louis (Borough) – They have hired an additional employee. Initially this person will work on the water and sewer project. Then move to more public works. The borough has received permission from the Municipal Authority to connect to a currently productive well.

**DCNR/PennDOT:**

- Aaron (PennDOT) – Wilson is working on the final design for the North section; Hilboldt Road to Mary Worthington Lane. Railroad coordination meetings will be starting up again soon with G&W; to coordinate the rail to trail section.

**Grant Applications:**

- PA Gaming Statewide Local Share Account – Still pending.
- Kubota Grant Opportunity – No update at this time. Still pending.
- CFA/MTF – Submitted; \$70,000 to be used for the Mary Worthington bridge.
- ARC – Economic Development Grant – Full application has been submitted for \$750,000 for the Trailhead.
- PennDOT/MTF – 6 road crossings along the corridor, \$149,922 with a 30% match.

- DCNR Fall Supplemental Round – Not awarded.
- EDA Community Development – Thanks to Julie, Kristin, and Dawn. 252 jobs created, 640 jobs saved and \$28 million invested. For a \$1.3 million application for the trailhead.

### **Trailhead Design:**

- 2 Public Meeting were held with focus on the County and Wellsboro. Thank you to Kristin and Julie for setting these meetings up. The current plans were submitted and public input was accepted. There was a lot of good information during these meetings. The community stressed a need for more restrooms, a changing room, less meeting space, more versatile office space, no retail, and more focus on Tioga County Businesses.
- Design – Changes were made to the layout of the building based on the feedback from these meetings. Deb showed an example of the new layout in the meeting.
  - The kitchen area was removed and a family restroom was added.
  - The middle will be more open for exhibits for local businesses to advertise.
  - There will be more office space and no retail will be in the building.
  - Bike lockers will be added.
  - Kristin talked about managing the building and is working with others on setting up a plan to partner in order to help local businesses. We want to ensure there is county wide representation. Working to find what the needs of the community are and how to meet them. Develop Tioga will be present in the building Monday through Friday during business hours and will continue to work on what the needs of the weekends will be and how to meet them.

### **Landowner Communication:**

- Easement with Backstreet Dreams – Two easements are being worked on. There is a draft agreement that still needs some revisions. Hope to have them signed in 30 – 90 days.

### **Old Business:**

- Property Acquisitions:
  - GROW – Closed on December 19. The county now owns the rail bed.
  - RR Abandonment – STB abandoned the rail line.
- Local Capital Campaign – \$10,000 was received First Energy Foundation; making a total for 2022 of \$166,100.
- Southern Section/Trailhead Schedule:
  - Design Schedule – Expecting a bid package any day. A funding package will be needed and then bid for the Southern Section. Hoping to advertise next month with a bid in February, with early construction beginning in 2023 running into 2024.
- Charleston Street Connector – Funding is through PennDOT with construction through DCNR, this is in the schedule for final design after the Southern Section.

- Update Contact Information – We will be updating the contact information for the next meeting. If you have not done so, please update your information using the link in the email.

**New Business:**

- Removal of Rails and Ties – A local contractor will be taking up the rails and ties. Work will begin soon.
- Funding and Bid Plans – Hoping for a bid package very soon and a funding plan by the first part of February. We have many pending applications that will impact funding.
- 287 Crossing – PennDOT will install a light and Delmar Township will take ownership. The county will work with Delmar Township to maintain the light. An example of the light was shown in the meeting.
- Greenways and Trails Summit – We are working to submit a proposal to have Wellsboro host the event in 2025. This proposal will be done soon. This summit could bring over 200 people to the area.
- Marc stated that the Mansfield Borough Council is interested in expanding their trail south to the lower part of town. Marc and Deb will be assisting the council with this.

**Public Comment:**

- Linda Stager – She is a champion of the trail! She stated that people love it here and Wellsboro has a lot to offer visitors!

Meeting adjourned at 9:14AM

**Next meeting:** March 15 @ 8:30AM Chamber Building and Zoom

Notes respectfully submitted by Kaye Aumick.