

RUSTIC ROADS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

4th Thursday of the month

6:00-9:00 PM

Held on Zoom –



Virtual Meeting September 23, 2021

Attendees:

MCDOT Staff Coordinator: Darcy Buckley
Linsey Bryant, Executive Administrative Aide

Members Present:

Laura Van Etten, Chair
Bob Wilbur
Anne Davies
Kamran Sadeghi
Dan Seamans

Guests:

Don Zeigler, Up-County Supervisor M-NCPPC
Jamey Pratt, M-NCPPC
Roberto Duke, M-NCPPC
Leslie Seville, Heritage Montgomery and Member Emeritus
Jane Thompson, Member Emeritus
Barbara Hoover, RRAC Nominee
David McKee, Benning Associates
Sandy Ward, Belt Property

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Meeting minutes: April – Approved. May – Approved with addition of information regarding RRAC retreat, Heritage Montgomery tours, and introduction of cell towers. June – Approved. June special meeting – Approved.

Action Items:

Peach Tree Road – Subdivision

Members visited location and found no views that would be obstructed. The applicant is requesting approval to provide for shared driveway access. Driveway to existing lot is proposed to be closed off at location and relocated to come off new driveway for two proposed lots to the north. Committee moved to draft letter of approval for driveway entrance.

Discussion Items:

Driveway Access on Rustic Roads

Committee expressed concern over permits issued for driveway access along Rustic Roads without being review by the committee. Members proposed drafting a letter to DPS to discuss involvement in the review process as it relates to driveway entrances along Rustic Roads.

Pavement Condition Index (PCI)

Committee discussed reviewing PCIs of Rustic Roads to see if roads could be scheduled for repairs. Link to the PCI information on Data Montgomery was provided to the committee.

Bridge Funding Research Update

The Committee's engineer member Kamran Sadeghi researched the Federal Highway Bridge program to determine ways to fund scenic or historic bridges and their possible preservation. Through "design exceptions," it is possible that these bridges do not have to comply with AASHTO or other standards. A "design waiver" may be granted on a case-by-case basis.

The Development Guide for Local Agencies by SHA/MDOT (424 pages) on page 27 contains information on Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; on page 51 contains information on design exceptions including the fact that these bridges do not have to meet minimum values.

A sample letter should be drawn up to be used by RRAC after further research. We need information on HP criteria. Sadeghi noted that we cannot change the condition of the bridge, but we can give reasons why things do not meet federal standards -- such as that a narrow width is a Significant Feature.

Informational Items:

Master Plan Update

Don Ziegler of M-NCPPC advised the committee that due to many priorities at the County Council, the timing of Planning's briefing for RRAC is now moved from fall to next January. A draft Master Plan will be completed in the spring.

New Members

Barbara Hoover, new member from the West Montgomery County Citizens' Association will be official for the next meeting. Members discussed how to develop a briefing for new members.

Adjourn

7:33 p.m.