

RUSTIC ROADS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

4th Thursday of the month

6:00-9:00 PM

Held on Zoom –



Virtual Meeting February 24, 2022

Attendees:

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

Members Present:

Laura Van Etten, Chair
Bob Wilbur
Anne Davies
Barbara Hoover
Dan Seamans
Charles Mess

Members Absent:

Kamran Sadeghi

Guests:

Jamey Pratt, M-NCPPC
Don Zeigler, M-NCPPC
Leslie Seville, Member Emeritus and Heritage Montgomery
Jane Thompson, Member Emeritus
John Nishwitz, Telecon Services
Jeff Schamber, Telecon Services
Tim Nanof, Sugarloaf Citizens Association

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

Minutes from December 2021 – approved.

Action Items:

15350 Sugarland Road (rustic) Driveway – Allnutt Property

Committee conducted a site visit on February 23rd. Applicant agreed to narrow driveway to 10 feet within the ROW – approved. Committee to draft letter of approval.

Telecon Services – Martinsburg Road (exceptional rustic)

Members from Telecon presented their plans for installing a fiber optic cable "back up line" as part Quantum Loophole Data center plans in Frederick County, Maryland. No Montgomery County parties will be served by this cable. The proposed plans consider installing the cables parallel to Martinsburg Road, and boring under other Rustic Roads including Mouth of Monocacy Road, River Road, and Whites Ferry Road all rustic or exceptional rustic). The committee requested that the engineers consider alternative routes; one suggested alternative was to re-route through Montgomery County's Resource Recovery facility, and another was to cross the Potomac River from Virginia further north, avoiding Montgomery County. Committee agreed to draft a letter regarding this initial plan. Concerns are over

the lack of width between the historic concrete section road and the historic stone wall, the appearance of the "hand hold" concrete vaults, and the need to protect tree root systems. Telecon spokespersons agreed to review other options and to respect 100-foot ROWs if and when boring under rustic roads.

Discussion:

Planning Committee Appointee

Committee members expressed the need for Planning Member to be appointed and need for experience in that position. Don Ziegler agreed to relay the Committee's concerns.

Informational Items:

Pennyfield Lock Road (rustic) – Tobytown Bus Depot

The community, along with the Housing Opportunities Commission (HOC), reviewed the plans and were in favor of option one, the installation of a driveway option in the existing location which removes parking lot dumpsters, maintaining current parking spaces. Darcy Buckley to follow up and obtain 30% plan drawing.

Glen Road (exceptional rustic) Bridge

Additional funding provided following the Glenstone recommendations.

Master Plan Update

Planning continues to work on updates; currently working on a briefing document that summarizes their recommendations. Will be seeking "courtesy reviews" from RRAC, MCDOT, OAG. A 2016 "Resource Guide" draft is being considered but has "fatal flaws." Jamey Pratt wants this as part of the Master Plan. Committee members stated it was more of a style guide, and were not in favor of including it. Jamey Pratt will send to Committee.

Open Meetings

Remind members to take training.

Draft Biennial Report

Currently compiling information.

Zion Road (rustic) and Schaeffer Road (rustic) Bridge updates

Zion to be discussed at March meeting. MCDOT issued notice to proceed on site work to determine extent of rehabilitation or replacement needed.

Proposed Noon Zooms

Future Zoom meetings to be scheduled to discuss Hoyles Mill, Special Protection Areas and tree canopy, Historic African American school houses and Old Roads New Histories.

Adjourn

8:16 p.m.

RRAC

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