

RUSTIC ROADS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

4th Thursday of the month

6:00-9:00 PM

Held on Zoom –



Virtual Meeting May 26, 2022

Attendees:

MCDOT Staff Coordinator: Darcy Buckley

Members Present:

Laura Van Etten, Chair

Barbara Hoover

Bob Wilbur

Charles Mess

Kamran Sadeghi

Anne Davies

Dan Seamans

Guests:

Robert Chance

Jamey Pratt, M-NCPPC

Leslie Saville, Member Emeritus and Heritage Montgomery

Jane Thompson, Member Emeritus

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

Minutes from March 2022 were approved.

Action Items:

Tucker Lane concerns - Bob Chance, Resident, Patuxent Drive

Resident on road intersecting with Tucker Lane presented concerns regarding traffic, curves on roadway, failing roadway edges. Committee discussed possible solutions. Decision was made to perform a site visit on a Friday with Mark Terry to review specific problems prior to requesting solutions. Brush trimming request will be made of SHA for the intersection with MD-108.

Martinsburg Road Bridge No. M-0042 over Potomac River Tributary

Bridge in the queue for replacement. Committee voted to write a letter asking what strength railing was the minimum required for this location with a speed limit of 30mph.

Schaeffer Road Bridge No. M-0137 over Little Seneca Creek

Discussion of consultant JMT findings that the bridge abutments are stone masonry covered in concrete, and their condition cannot be determined. Committee to object to consultant view of railing choice. Committee asked Darcy Buckley to confirm whether a W-beam product will suffice in the 25mph zone here as a way to use the existing type of pipe railing in a manner that might preserve the National Register Eligible status. Leslie to

contact Tim Tamborino with MHT and Anne Bruder with SHA. Darcy to inquire of HP colleagues to obtain information on preserving NR status. Darcy to distribute Director Conklin's paper on Massachusetts road preservation. Darcy to ask whether the same level of crash test requirements would apply if there were no federal funding. Committee voted to send a letter regarding the abutments and the railings.

Heritage Days volunteer opportunity - June 25 or 26

Committee discussed how to obtain white boards and a tent for use at one of the Heritage Montgomery sites. Committee members could not commit to the June dates; the next HM opportunity will be during Heritage Harvest during October. Next year the Committee will consider appearing at a location for Bike to Work Day, which will be held on May 19, 2023.

12120 Prices Distillery Road - Conditional Use Application 22-07 - Chapingo LLC

Committee reviewed the multiple complaints against the company as well as the frequent misleading and obfuscating statements provided by the company's representatives. Committee voted unanimously in opposition to the CU application, supporting the decision to deny recommended by Planning. Committee to write letters to Planning Board and Office of Zoning and Administrative Hearings. Committee authorized Laura Van Etten to testify.

Discussion Items:

White's Ferry Concept Development Plan by National Park Service

Leslie Saville updated the Committee on plans for NPS to revise use of property at Whites Ferry and C&O Canal. Committee to write letter to NPS park supervisor to express RRAC's interest in being involved.

River Road site visit re: proposal to encapsulate asbestos in roadway

Proposal by MCDOT is to cover the area where asbestos exists with tar & chip seal. Committee requests a site visit with Frank Kingsley.

Informational Items:

Master Plan Update - Elton Farm Road, other

Committee discussed upcoming meeting on the road with resident, coordinated by Planning. Jamey Pratt advised that he is intending to finish a draft by mid-June. A courtesy draft will be provided to RRAC, MCDOT and OAG. State Parks will be asked for input regarding roads bordering on State Parkland. There will be a tight timeline to turn comments around by June 30 for a final draft by July 28. (RRAC's previous comments have not yet been reviewed.) A public hearing may occur 30 days after the final draft is made public (early Sept.). This an ambitious schedule sought by management. RRAC advised to provide "larger recommendations" only and not address road-by-road matters. RRAC to send email expressing concern over timeline and asking for more time.

Elton Farm Road hike - new timing for Heritage History project

Park Ranger Erik Ledbetter told RRAC members that the original African American history project at this site will be delayed because it is being incorporated into a much larger project involving many other locations. There will be a new facility constructed on Howard Chapel Road. An historic house currently under curatorship will be used for meetings. Clearly this will mean more traffic on Howard Chapel Road but may lessen traffic on Elton Farm Road.

Montevideo Road bridge - historic award nomination judges' review

The judges viewed the bridge and asked questions on Thursday, May 19. Reportedly they were very interested and positive.

Brown Logo Signs update

The first in-house printed Logo SNS was put up at Old Bucklodge Lane recently. MCDOT cannot begin sign replacement until fall due to staffing shortages. Where signs are missing, they will be replaced immediately with Logo SNS.

Next meeting to be held Thursday, July 7, 2022.

Adjourn

8:35 p.m.