

RUSTIC ROADS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

4th Thursday of the month

6:00-9:00 PM

Held on Zoom –



Virtual Meeting December 1, 2022

Attendees:

Members Present:

Laura Van Etten, Chair

Kamran Sadeghi

Anne Davies

Dan Seamans

Charles Mess

Barbara Hoover

Elena Shuvalov

Jamey Pratt (non-voting)

MCDOT Staff Coordinator: Darcy Buckley

Guests:

Leslie Saville, Member Emeritus

Jane Thompson, Member Emeritus

Andrew Bossi, MCDOT

David McKee, Benning & Associates

Joe and Lillian Howard, Batchellors Forest Road residents

Paul Tukey, Glenstone

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

Action Items:

- **Batson Road, Admin. Subdivision Plan 620220080 – David McKee, Benning & Associates**

Mr. McKee presented updated drawings as of 12/01/2022 showing property driveway access off Brogden Road instead of Batson Road (rustic). This prevents widening on Batson Road for FRS fire hydrant use, which the Committee wished to avoid. Since the driveway will not access a rustic road, no letter for DRC is required; however, the Committee voted to approve the Brogden Road entry if a letter is needed, as well as to approve as a backup plan Mr. McKee's previous revised drawing dated 10/17/2022 showing a 20' driveway with wider wings on Batson Road without road widening on Batson.

- **Howard Property, Admin. Subdivision Plan 620230020, Batchellors Forest Road – David McKee, Benning & Associates**

Mr. McKee presented updated plans for this house on 2 acres dated 12/05/2022 showing modified driveway access to be 20 feet wide with the larger apron, and located 250 feet (rule requires within 400 feet) from a fire hydrant. The road measures 20-22 feet wide at the hydrant, so there will be no additional road widening needed if this plan is acceptable to FRS. The Committee voted to support this plan.

- **Sidewalk proposal for Batchellors Forest Road – Andrew Bossi, MCDOT**

Discussion by MCDOT regarding interest in a sidewalk on the east side led resident Joe Howard to object, pointing out that there was very little foot traffic on the road at that location. He has lived there since 1980.

Foot traffic comes from Old Vic Road where a sidewalk currently exists (north of the Howard property). In addition, the west side of the road is more open without trees that would be destroyed by a sidewalk. Committee members noted that the sidewalk would not connect to anything (sidewalk to nowhere) and that the legal requirement for clearing snow would be burdensome. An existing natural surface trail exists well south of this location on the west side of BFR and previous. Past Committee votes have been to continue that trail and avoid a sidewalk.

Discussion Items:

- **Need update on Tucker Lane from Seifu Kerse, Engineer**
Darcy Buckley to check on this.
- **County Executive budget conversations -- RRAC input**
It was suggested and approved after discussion that the Committee write to the County Executive asking for adequate and dedicated funding for tree trimming on roads used by large ag equipment, for regular inspection and clearing of culverts, and for equipment and personnel to undertake timely mowing on rustic roads.
- **Testimony before Board of Appeals re: Chapingo CU**
The Committee voted to approve written and in-person testimony to oppose the Chapingo CU before the Board of Appeals, and Barbara Hoover volunteered to appear on behalf of the Committee if no one else wished to volunteer.

Action Items, cont.

7:05

- **Glen Road Bridge over Sandy Branch (M-0148), 60% Plans**
Paul Tukey reviewed the plans for consistency with what Glenstone proposed as the Committee previously supported. He will contact MCDOT with comments by 12/15/2022 to express extreme concern over the design of the streambed north of the bridge, opposing the use of rip-rap in the stream south of the bridge, opposing any use of chain link fence on the wing walls, asking that the appearance or size of the wingwalls be reduced (possibly by shrouding with boulders), and asking for a planting plan. He stated that if staging must occur on the Glenstone side, at least the trees there were very small and environmental impact would be less. Committee to write expressing concern over road widening due to positioning of W-beam on top of curb, seeking drawing of existing elevation and of proposed elevation, a drawing of trees being removed, and a list of proposed trees for planting.

Discussion Items, cont.

- **Master Plan Public Hearing Draft**
Laura Van Etten showed a PPT addressing some issues that arose during the Planning Board briefing and hearing.

Information Items:

- Holiday Luncheon December 14, 2022, 1 PM
Leslie Saville is taking the RSVPs.

Adjourn

7:40 p.m.