

RUSTIC ROADS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

4th Thursday of the month

7:00-9:00 PM



Meeting Notes - Virtual Meeting December 12, 2024

Attendees:

Members:

Sandy Heiler
Mason Hopkins
Barbara Hoover
Aren Johnson
Tom Linthicum
Jamey Pratt, non-voting
Elena Shuvalov
Richard Thoms
Billy Williard

Guests:

Laura Van Etten, Member Emeritus
Jane Thompson, Member Emeritus
Florence Dwyer, Montgomery County Planning Department
Bernie Mihm
John Stuart

MCDOT Staff Coordinator: Chris Van Alstyne

MCDOT Executive Administrative Aide: Tawanda Johnson

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Action Items

Approval of Agenda

Committee members approved agenda.

Approval of Minutes from October 24, 2024, Meeting

Committee members approved minutes.

Discussion Items

Welcome new member – Aren Johnson

The committee welcomed newest member to the Rustic Roads Advisory Committee.

Skymeadow Way, Ashton-Sandy Spring, MD 20860 (Bentley Road)

No objection by the committee to change plans from gravel trail to asphalt trail. Chris Van Alstyne to prepare email communication.

Jerusalem Road Site Visit Recap

The committee met with Donald Noble and MCDOT team. Discussion ensued about how the Division of Highway Services chooses the priority of resurfacing projects. This project was prioritized due to written complaints from the Town of Poolesville.

Executive Regulations Discussion

Dick Thoms did research of the County Code to find that Rustic Roads should have a target speed of 30 mph. Out of 31 roads checked only six meet the target rate of speed. Discussed the results of Peach Tree Road speed study which lead to lowering the speed would cause a traffic hazard. Target speed as defined in the Complete Streets Design Guide is the speed goal to be met following revisions to any road. It is not a set requirement for the speed limit on an existing road to be changed without additional improvement. Chris to find out the specific reason the speed study resulted in no change. What other speed control measures are there to reduce speeding on Rustic Roads? Chris to ask Traffic Ops to come to next meeting to explain how speed limits are changed.

Revisit of Discussion of Temporary Signs

Postpone topic to another meeting.

Final Comments on RRAC Flyer

Send Chris any updates in order to finalize flyer. Motion passed to approve the brochure with minor edits.

Road sign tracking status

Chris Van Alstyne reports that committee is halfway through the verification process and will work with Traffic Engineering to get the signs produced.

Discuss future agenda items

Willard Road maintenance and foliage overgrowth.
Montevideo Road.

Confirm date of next meeting

Next meeting at 7:00 pm on January 23, 2025. Jamey Pratt to send meeting schedule for 2025 to committee.

Planning Department Updates:

No updates at this time.

MCDOT Updates

Resigned Member

Kamran Sadeghi resigned his position on the committee. The position will be posted until filled. Suggest posting to professional engineering boards. Motion passed to post position for three months.

Montevideo Road and Sugarland Road

Signs to be installed without stop bars on the roadway.

School Bus Stop Sign

Placement at Peach Tree and White Store Roads. Committee has no concern on sign installation.

Other Discussion:

Rustic Road Books

Jamey Pratt to coordinate with committee chair to distribute.

Wasche Road Culvert

Laura Van Etten discussed the notification process to the committee of significant road work improvements or closures by MCDOT.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.