

Bridgeton Township Planning Commission  
Minutes of March 22, 2022 meeting via Zoom

BTPC members present: CC Hopf (Chair), Terry Brown, Mike Doyle, Greg Gerhardt, and Roger Keller.

BCPC members: Bryn-Erin Kerr, Christian Regosch (Planner -Transportation), David Kimmerly (Senior Planner -Historic Preservation)

**I. Call to order**

CC Hopf called the meeting to order at 7.30 pm.

**II. Review of February, 2022 meeting minutes.**

The minutes from the February 22, 2022 meeting were reviewed. On a motion by Roger Keller and seconded by Mike Doyle the minutes were approved. Terry Brown voted nay and Greg Gerhardt abstained.

**III. The Bridgeton Township Comprehensive Plan update.**

Bryn-Erin Kerr, Community Planner with the Bucks County Planning Commission, led the Second joint work session with BCPC

Agenda Outline:

1. Review work program
2. Historic Resources - David Kimmerly
3. Transportation and Circulation - Christian Regosch
4. Community Survey
5. Next Meeting Date and Topics

**Historical Resources.** David reviewed programs where historical places are officially recognized: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) administers a program of historical markers to capture the memory of people, places, events, and innovations of Pennsylvania. The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the nation's historic places worthy of preservation. The Delaware Canal has been designated a National Historic Landmark.

Issues regarding designated sites: owner privacy, may result in restrictions to structural change. A question was raised regarding the dating of the Historic Resources Map in the 1994 CP. The base map is marked “updated 1991” but the survey data may be from 1982. David said he could recommend a consultant who might be available to bring the survey up to date. But this would likely not be available in time for the CP Update. Roger Keller said that we should still get an update.

The villages of Narrowsville, Rupletown, and Upper Black Eddy. There was some discussion of the exact location of Narrowsville with respect to the boundary with Nockamixon. Brin-Erin mentioned that designated districts under the Historic District Act can be protected regarding future changes. Terry Brown recalled that it was recommended back in the 1982 survey that the issue of a designated historic district should be investigated.

David mentioned availability of various grant programs as incentives for recognizing historic resources and also recommended forming a local historical commission. He also mentioned the possibility of a stand-alone historic preservation plan.

**Transportation.** Christian Regosch described the traffic circulation structure based on Minor Arterial, Major Collectors, and local Access roads and showed a tabulation of bridge traffic (from PennDot).

The traffic data (annual average daily traffic) comparing 2000 to 2018 on Bridgeton Hill Road and River Road showed a surprising drop of 37 and 38% respectively.

Terry Brown said that he was concerned that repairs to River Road (caused by river bank erosion) could involve widening of the roadway thus changing the ‘village environment’ aesthetic. Roger Keller said that the river bank repairs would most probably involve armoring the bank with concrete and steel and we wouldn’t “lose land to the river.”

Bicycle & Scenic Routes: Delaware Canal Trail, Ringing Rocks Park Trail and possible future connections to the Pennsylvania Highlands Trail (PAHighlands.org). Christian noted that the state is redoing its ‘Scenic Routes’ program where River Road could be eligible.

Christian noted that truck traffic was a major concern. He also recommended that the township develop an official trails map.

**Community Survey.** Bryn-Erin noted that MetroQuest, a software program widely used by planners for community engagement, could be available at no extra cost to the township.

#### **IV. Adjournment**

With no further PC comments and no public comments, Terry Brown moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by CC Hopf and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9.51 pm.

Michael Doyle