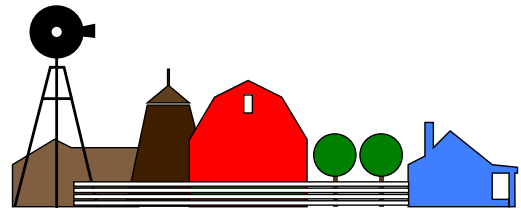


RUSTIC ROADS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

4th Tuesday of the month

6:00-8:00 PM Executive Office Building, Rockville

DGS Large conference room 9th Floor



Meeting of April 28th, 2015

Attendees:

DPS Staff coordinator: Chris Myers

M-NCPPC member: Leslie Saville

Voting Members present:

Christopher Marston

Jane Thompson

Greg Deaver

Todd Greenstone

Robert Tworkowski

Voting Members absent:

Audrey Patton

Angela Butler

Guests:

None

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm.

Presentations - None

New Business –

History of the program – 1990 Proposal

The committee discussed the first 27 pages of the 1990 Proposal for a Rural/Rustic Roads Program. Leslie Saville pointed out some of the key points that stuck out to her and thought would be important for the new members to understand. She also discussed some of the important documents and resources that guide the program including the 1990 proposal, the 1996 Rustic Roads Functional Master Plan and where to find the laws and codes that pertain to the program. The committee talked about the idea of contacting some of the original task force members to get an insight on how the program was created and what the original intent of the program was meant to be. The rest of the 1990 proposal is to be discussed at the next meeting.

Glenstone

Chris Myers talked about the Glenstone project that is occurring along Glen Road, a Rustic Road. Glenstone is a private art museum that will be open to the public. The project encompasses a large tract of land along Glen Road, a rustic road, and will be impacting the public right of way.

The committee looked at pictures of the proposed locations of two entrances along the road. One is an existing residential driveway and the other will be a new entrance. They discussed the idea of asking that the power lines get buried along the frontage of the property. Leslie is going to send the drawings out to the committee for comments so a letter can be drafted and sent to the applicant prior to applying for a right of way permit through the county. Greg Deaver thought it would be a good idea to make sure a statement is included saying that if anything on the plans submitted with the permit application is different or was not included with what was discussed in the committee's letter, that the applicant would need to come back to the committee to discuss those changes. The committee agreed with making sure that statement is included in the letter.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Chris told the committee that his wife is expecting and that he will be taking time off to help out with the newborn. Therefore, meetings will not be held in June or July. The committee was ok with the next meeting being held the Tuesday after Memorial Day weekend. A couple options for an August meeting were given out and Chris is to send out an email with a preference. The fall meetings were tentatively set at 9/29, 10/27 and 12/1.

Old Business –

Minutes

The minutes from the March 24th meeting were approved with no corrections.

Promoting the program

Chris informed the committee that the county does have a print shop and that they can design and print a rack card for a very reasonable price. The committee needs to come up with the pictures and information that they want to see on the card and the print shop will do the rest. Jane Thompson told Leslie she could help out with gathering photos. Leslie is going to scan the old prototype and send it around for the committee to comment on what they would like to see on the card.

The committee also discussed upcoming events that they might be interested in attending to promote the program. Heritage Days, Countryside Artisans tours, The Farm Tour, Poolesville Day and the Picnic with the Potomac Pedalers were all discussed. Jane is going to look into

what is involved with the Poolesville Day and if that is something the committee may want to look at doing. It will be held September 19th. The idea of attending Farmers Markets to promote the program was also discussed. It was agreed upon that more information is needed on these events and which ones would be most beneficial.

Member Replacement Update

Chris informed the committee that no applicants had applied for the farmer position being vacated by Angela Butler. He said that the county recommended holding off re-opening the vacancy posting until some potential applicants are known. Leslie said she has a couple names so Chris will ask that the vacancy be posted.

The committee also talked about what would be required to get the regulations changed concerning the 50% income requirement. Leslie said we would have to get a council person to sponsor the proposal and then have it passed by a majority vote with the council. It was decided it would be a good idea to work with the Ag Advisory Committee on this since they have the same requirements.

SHA TAC program

No one from the committee has had a chance to take any pictures of the proposed sign locations. They talked about the color of the signs and whether the state flag at the top of the sign was appropriate. Due to the time, no decisions were made and they decided to email ideas among the members.

Club Hollow Road

Chris informed the committee that the Jamison's had decided to move the driveway closer to the cistern easement so the road widening would not be necessary.

Brown Street Name Sign Request

The letter requesting money to pay for MCDOT to replace all the current street name signs with brown ones on rustic roads has been sent to County Council. Leslie said we need emails sent the council in support of the request to help get it approved.

West Harris Road

The committee talked about the site visit that Leslie, Chris, Jane and Christopher Marston did with some of the residents along West Harris Road. The residents are complaining about the widening of the road which is causing higher traffic speeds, erosion and the loss of trees along the road edges, the excess gravel that is spreading past the roadway into the adjacent fields,

woods and stream, resulting in the loss of native wildflowers and the proliferation of invasive plants. The road is used by hikers, bikers and equestrians—the higher speeds are a safety concern. The members are going to try and contact other jurisdictions that have to maintain gravel roads to learn more about possible remedies. A discussion with MCDOT will then be needed to determine how the road can be restored and maintained.

Correspondence –

Glenstone – letter needs to be drafted after the plans are reviewed by the committee.

Farmer position – Chris to draft a letter to the Ag Advisory Committee on working together to get the regulations changed regarding the 50% minimum income qualification

Public Awareness – None

Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm. The next Public RRAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday May 26th from 6:00 to 8:00 in Rockville.

MINUTES APPROVED:

May 26, 2015