



MINUTES
RUSTIC ROADS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
February 22, 2011
Executive Office Building – Rockville

Members:

Bob Goldberg
Fred Lechluder
Eric Spates
Robin Ziek
Greg Deaver

Leslie Saville – MNCPPC member
Sarah Navid – staff coordinator

Guest: Dan Sanayi – DOT, Division of Traffic Engineering & Operations

Absent:

Marc Miller

The meeting began at 7:00 PM.

Minutes – The November 23, 2010 minutes were read and approved.

Chair– Greg Deaver was nominated and unanimously elected as chair for 2011.

South Glen Road - Dan Sanayi presented a traffic study evaluating nighttime traffic safety along South Glen Road. The study was done in response to a petition for street lights from residents along the road. The crash history along the road was not indicative of a nighttime safety problem and DOT's recommendation was to **not** install additional street lighting on South Glen Road. They did recommend installing chevron signing through the curves near Deep Glen Drive. There are already existing raised pavement markers along the centerline of the road to provide delineation.

The guidelines of the Rustic Roads Advisory Committee are not to provide continuous street lighting on rustic and exceptional rustic roads and only to consider selective lighting if there is a documented safety problem. DOT is following the guidelines of the RRAC.

The Committee voted unanimously to accept the DOT recommendations.

The following other items and topics were discussed:

Tree Trimming – Eric drafted a letter to the County Executive and County Council reiterating the urgent need for tree trimming along the rustic roads particularly in

light of the recent winter storm where downed trees and limbs resulted in road closures and loss of power. The Committee voted to accept the “spirit” of the letter but to add some additional language on the lack of a regular tree maintenance program. Also, Sarah and Leslie will be meeting with PEPCO tomorrow and additional relevant information may come out of that meeting. Robin will add the additional language and the Committee will review the letter via e-mail.

Lewis Property– A five lot subdivision proposed for **Peach Tree Road** north of Darnestown Road was reviewed at the last meeting. Three new single family houses and two new driveways were proposed. Now there is only one driveway proposed and it has been staked. Eric will check it in the field and give us any comments. The view over the peach orchard on the east side of Peach Tree Road is called out in the Rustic Roads Functional Master Plan.

Cell Towers – Leslie reported on the status of two proposed T-Mobile towers that were previously reviewed. The RRAC recommendations on West Offutt Road were partially followed: internal antennae and no new driveway. However, the Committee recommended the tower be relocated further back from the road and it was only moved one foot back. Bob suggested the Committee urge that the tower be relocated back to optimally blend with the landscape and be least obtrusive and Robin added perhaps clustered with the existing outbuildings.

The Mount Ephraim Road site, a 150’ tower in the viewshed of Sugarloaf Mountain may be more problematic. There was discussion of whether a silo could be used to disguise it. The Committee agreed to table discussion until a new balloon test is scheduled. Leslie will advise when this occurs.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Date Approved: March 31, 2011

