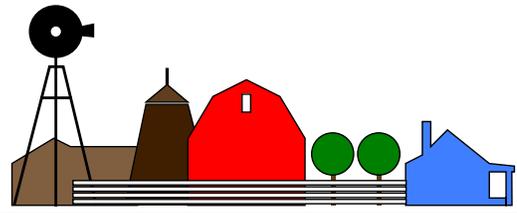


RUSTIC ROADS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

4th Tuesday of the month

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

DGS Large conference room 9th Floor



Meeting of May 26th, 2015

Attendees:

DPS Staff coordinator: Chris Myers

M-NCPPC member: Leslie Saville

Voting Members present:

Christopher Marston

Jane Thompson

Greg Deaver

Robert Tworkowski

Voting Members absent:

Audrey Patton

Angela Butler

Todd Greenstone

Guests:

Michael Weigand – West Harris Road resident

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

Presentations - None

New Business –

Batchellors Forest Road

Leslie Saville and Chris Myers talked about the site visit they had participated in a couple weeks ago with a few of the concerned residents along Batchellors Forest Road. The residents would like a hiker/biker trail installed because traffic along the road is increasing and it is becoming more dangerous to be walk or bike on the road. The trail would ultimately end up at the school so it would allow kids to safely travel to and from school as well. The group looked at various options and locations for the trail. Barry Fuss from DOT discussed the options for the trail along the culvert and thought it was possible but would need to make sure a railing was installed to prevent pedestrians from falling into the stream. Natural surface materials were discussed and neither gravel nor dirt are ideal because they limit the use to drier weather. Asphalt would be the better option but had never been allowed before along a rustic road. They also discussed

the option of placing the trail farther off the road and cutting through the conservation easement. Many decisions have yet to be made including location, material, maintenance and cost of installation. The residents will likely contact the committee down the road as some of these decisions are made.

Old Business –

Minutes

The minutes from the April 28th meeting were approved with no corrections.

Glenstone

The committee continued their discussion from the last meeting concerning the development occurring adjacent to the Glenstone Foundation along Glen Road. Leslie brought in maps, drawings and pictures of what the site currently looks like and what is being proposed along the road. Two entrances will be installed along the road. One is an existing driveway way entrance that will be used for staff. The other will be a new entrance just east of the existing Three Sisters Road entrance that will eventually be closed and will be used by visitors of the art gallery. The committee agreed that moving the visitor's entrance east of the current Three Sisters Road is a good idea and would improve visibility. They also thought it would be a good idea to have the power lines buried along the frontage of the property and to find out the proposed building heights. These requests will be written up in a letter and sent to the foundation's representatives after first being reviewed by the committee.

Upcoming meeting dates

Chris reminded the committee that the next meeting wouldn't be until August the 18th because he will be out helping to care for his new child. The schedule for the remainder of the year is as follows: 8/25, 9/29, 10/27 and 12/1.

Promoting the Program

The committee discussed more ideas of how to promote the program. They briefly discussed the brochure and looked at an older prototype of one that had been used several years ago. They also looked at another brochure that Loudon County had put together for their Historic Roads program. They decided maybe a better, more feasible idea was to have a large map created that could be displayed at various events to show where the rustic roads are located throughout the county. Chris is going to look into how much something like that would cost.

They also talked about this year's annual Poolesville Day as a possibility to attend and promote the program. It will be held on September 19th. Chris is to send out an email asking for volunteers to attend the booth and talk about the program.

Member Replacement Update

Chris informed the committee that no applicants had applied for the farmer position being vacated by Angela Butler. Leslie said she knows of a potential candidate whose income criteria may meet the requirements. The committee agreed to have him apply and also work on changing the regulations to lower the income requirements of farmers knowing that this process will take some time. This would allow more applicants to apply.

SHA TAC program

The state tourist area and corridor signing program was discussed again so that a letter could be written to Steve Hollie with the SHA regarding the committee's recommendations. Everyone agreed that what the state was proposing was acceptable. This included the size of the signs, proposed locations, color and state flag being shown on the signs. They want to make sure the state is aware that the committee is only agreeing with what was proposed and that any additional signs or changes in design would need to be presented before the committee again. Chris is to draft a letter for everyone to review before sending off.

Club Hollow Road

Chris informed the committee that the Jamison's had sent a letter saying the fire marshal had deemed the proposal to move the driveway closer to the cistern easement as unsafe and would not allow it. This option was preferred because it would allow the fire trucks to use the driveway apron as a turnaround rather than having to widen the road. Leslie suggested that we set up a meeting with the Jamison's and the fire marshal to discuss.

Brown Street Name Sign Request

The committee has gotten council approval and \$25,000 has been budgeted for fiscal year 2016 to start the process to replace the existing green street name signs with brown ones along the rustic roads. Leslie suggested that the committee start working with DOT on design ideas. Robert Tworkowski agreed to meet Leslie with DOT to discuss these ideas. Leslie is to send out some design ideas she has seen for the committee to comment on. She also suggested that they start replacing the signs in Councilmember Berliner's area to thank him for pushing the proposal through.

Share the roads sign

Leslie talked about the idea of changing existing share the roads signs with a newer one that would include hikers, bikers, horses and farm equipment. She asked Jane Thompson if she would contact the residents of West Harris Road to find out if they would be interested in having the share the road sign on that road replaced. Jane agreed to look into it.

Correspondence –

Glenstone – letter needs to be drafted.

SHA TAC – letter to be drafted for review by committee

Public Awareness – None

Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm. The next Public RRAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday August 25th from 6:00 to 8:00 in Rockville.

MINUTES APPROVED:

August 25, 2015