



**Bicycle/Trails Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
September 18, 2017  
Chesapeake General Hospital Lifestyles Center  
5:00 p.m.**

***Voting Members Present:***

Chad Triolet  
Beth Reitz  
Doug Connolly  
Steve Allen  
Tammy Hill  
Aaron Bull

***Voting Members Not Present:***

Laura Fitzgerald  
John Arthur

***Staff Present/Others Present:***

Benjamin Camras, Planning Department  
Steve Froncillo, Public Works  
Kevin Kaul, Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Department  
S.Z. "Debbie" Ritter, City Council Member  
Tom Lilley, Tidewater Bicycle Association (TBA)  
Fred Casioppo, Tidewater Bicycle Association (TBA)  
Rogard Ross, Chesapeake Environmental Improvement Council

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The meeting was called to order at 5:25 PM by Chairman Chad Triolet.

Committee members and guests introduced themselves.

Minutes from the March 27, April 17, and June 19, 2017 meetings were approved as submitted. Doug Connolly made the motion to approve, Tammy Hill seconded the motion, and all committee members voted to approve the minutes.

**Old Business**

Council Advisory Letter Subcommittee Report: The committee discussed the contents of the priority project advisory letter to City Council. Rogard Ross suggested replacing the Sparrow Road bike lanes with Indian River Road bike lanes. Doug Connolly stated Sparrow Road was selected because of its feasibility, ability to promote safety, and proximity to Sparrow Road Intermediate School. Council Member Ritter asked if Sparrow Road bike lanes would be a candidate for Safe Routes to Schools. Steve Froncillo stated that project would meet the requirements. Rogard Ross requested

language be added to the letter stating consistency with the Elizabeth River Restoration Plan for the Sparrow Road bike lanes and Indian River kayak launch. Benjamin Camras asked the committee to please provide any feedback before the next meeting. Benjamin Camras further stated the letter would be finalized at the next committee meeting in preparation for City Council submission in early November.

**Action Item:** Benjamin Camras will address comments as they are received and provide a final draft for the committee at the next meeting.

South Hampton Roads Trail Update: Benjamin Camras provided an update on the status of the South Hampton Roads Trail in Chesapeake. Steve Froncillo stated there is some public confusion regarding the naming of the trail. The committee reviewed current naming conventions for the South Hampton Roads Trail; the South Hampton Roads Trails refers to the regional trail system and the Commonwealth Railway Trail is the Chesapeake portion of this trail system. Council Member Ritter proposed renaming the segment of the South Hampton Roads Trail in Chesapeake. The committee decided to refer to the Commonwealth Railway Trail as the Chesapeake section of the South Hampton Roads Trail.

## **New Business**

PRT Update: Kevin Kaul stated PRT was evaluating restroom improvements for the Great Dismal Swamp Canal Trail and paving the soft path trail along Bruce Road. Kevin Kaul also stated PRT was considering installing amenities such as benches and fitness equipment along the Chesapeake portion of the South Hampton Roads Trail. Kevin Kaul also stated PRT is looking to develop a new park at City Hall in the large courtyard on Albemarle Drive. Kevin Kaul stated Bells Mills Park is now open.

Public Works Update: Steve Froncillo stated PW is preparing two Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) grants for sidewalk improvements on Poindexter Street and Hanbury Road/Etheridge Manor Boulevard. Steve Froncillo stated the TAP application for Hanbury Road/Etheridge Manor Boulevard is considered Phase I and would install a five-foot sidewalk; Phase II would reconstruct the road to allow for a multi-use path and bike lanes. Steve Froncillo stated the next BTAC meeting would include an information session about these applications.

**Action Item:** Benjamin Camras will coordinate with Beth Reitz to reserve a meeting room.

**Action Item:** Benjamin Camras and Steve Froncillo will coordinate to prepare advertising and meeting materials for the TAP public information session.

Christmas Parade: Rogard Ross stated the annual Chesapeake Christmas Parade could feature a joint entry between BTAC and the Chesapeake Environmental Improvement Council. Tammy Hill asked whether PRT participated in the parade. Kevin Kaul stated PRT is an active participant in the parade. The committee decided to continue this discussion to the next meeting.

Committee Appointments: Benjamin Camras reviewed the vacant committee positions and those members that had been reappointed.

South Hampton Roads Trail Signage: Benjamin Camras stated the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization as proposed installing standard signage region-wide along with trail. The committee discussed this proposal and offered their support for this effort.

Birthplace of America Trail Resolution: Benjamin Camras stated the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization has requested localities to provide a Council approved resolution supporting the Birthplace of America Trail Study. The committee discussed supporting this effort and decided to offer their support toward drafting the resolution.

**Action Item:** Benjamin Camras will coordinate with the City Clerk's office to prepare a resolution for an upcoming City Council agenda.

### **Open Discussion**

Doug Connolly asked the committee to send him pictures of trails in Chesapeake that can be posted to the committee's Facebook page. The committee discussed who should have administrative rights to the Facebook page and be able to post pictures. The committee decided to extend administrative rights to Tammy Hill and Aaron Bull.

**Follow-up Item:** Doug Connolly and Chad Triolet will coordinate with Tammy Hill and Aaron Bull to extend the committee's Facebook page administrative rights.

Tammy Hill asked if thank you notes had been sent to vendors and participants of the BikeFest event. Benjamin Camras confirmed thank you notes had not been set.

**Action Item:** Benjamin Camras will draft thank you notes and send them to the vendors and participants of BikeFest.

Tammy Hill proposed advertising for the 2018 BikeFest event in PRT's leisure guide publication. The committee discussed Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup> for holding BikeFest. Tammy Hill made the motion to approve Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 for BikeFest, Beth Reitz seconded the motion, and all committee members voted to approve the date.

**Follow-up Item:** Benjamin Camras will coordinate with Kevin Kaul to publish the BikeFest date in PRT's leisure guide.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 16. The meeting officially adjourned at 6:09.

BGC