

YOUGHIOGHENY RIVER ADVISORY BOARD

Youghioghenny River Advisory Board

Public Meeting-July 26, 2023

Members Present: Jeff McCauley, Seth Metheny, Molly Rikhye, Randy Rodeheaver
Don Sebold, Roger Zbel, Siera Wigfield (excused),
Chad Fike represented the County planning office in Ms. Wigfield's absence.

The meeting was called to order by Kevin Null, County Administrator at 10:00 am

Advisory Board members introduced themselves and discussed election of Chairperson. Don Sebold was nominated by Randy Rodeheaver as Chairperson with Roger Zbel as Vice Chair, which was seconded by Molly Rikhye. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion on administrative rules.

Meetings are open Public Meeting and will be live streamed. On a motion by Roger Zbel, which was seconded by Jeff McCauley, the County representative will prepare the Board minutes.

Discussion on Executive Session. Boards may go into executive session for specific reasons outlined in the regulations.. Randy Rodeheaver made a motion to enable the Board to go into Executive Session. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Roberts Rule of Order will be used to run all meetings.

Discussion on whether the public will be able to provide input during the Board meetings.
On a motion by Roger Zbel, which was seconded by Jeff McCauley, the Board approved brief (2 minutes) public comments at the beginning of the meeting and at the end of the meeting, before the meeting is adjourned.

On a motion by Molly Rikhye, which was seconded by Jeff McCauley, the Board approved a quorum of six (6) members and a majority of those present will be required to pass a motion.

On a motion by Randy Rodeheaver, which was seconded by Jeff McCauley, the Board agreed to meet on an "as needed" basis.

Presentation of Swallow Falls Bridge Project by GPI Engineering

Kyle Smith, GPI Engineering presented the bridge information that was presented at the Public Meeting on July 10, 2023.

Comments from Board Members

Designed well but needs to a simpler design.
Many competing priorities-public transportation and public safety
Exceptions will need to be made in order to build the bridge
Preferred Option 1C-close the road and construct the new bridge in place

Width of proposed bridge (35 feet) needs to be reduced

GPI indicated that a 28-foot-wide bridge meets requirements for Federal funding. They also indicated that a waiver could be obtained for a 24-foot-wide bridge. There was no consensus on the Board on what the width of the bridge should be.

GPI indicated that a 28-foot-wide bridge would be necessary for construction/replacement in the future. If the bridge is 24 feet wide it would be necessary to close the bridge for construction/replacement.

Discussion on the aesthetics of the bridge. Is the stone façade necessary?

The bridge on Sang Run Road and Mayhew Inn Road was discussed as an option on what a bridge could look like. Board members will visit the site.

Public Comments

- Due process is important and the Board has so far done a good job.
- Pedestrian safety is important-the sidewalk should be taken into consideration.
- Question on how the Board is convened and who convenes the Board. *Discussion on whether the Board should meet at least once a year. The Board is responsible to call a meeting but members need to be aware of activities involving the Scenic and Wild regulations.*
- Can GPI provide options or see other bridge designs? *GPI will provide some design options.*

On a motion by Molly Rikhye, which was seconded by Roger Zbel the Board agreed to look at the Swallow Falls bridge as well as the bridge at Sang Run Road at Mayhew Inn Road and reconvene on Tuesday, August 1, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

On a motion by Randy Rodeheaver, which was seconded by Roger Zbel, the Board adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

Attest:

By Order of the Board,

KEVIN G. NULL

County Administrator

Don Sebold, Chairman

Youghiogheny River Advisory Board

Date _____