

# HUNTINGDON COUNTY ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 30, 2026

Committee Members: Matt Price, Alisha Grove, Nathan Querry, Judy Scott, Jess Weir, Tom Yoder

Stakeholders, visitors, and ex-officio members: Laurie Nearhood, James Campbell

## **Review and Action on January 2, 2026 Meeting Minutes:**

Matt Price called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. A motion to approve the January 2, 2026 meeting minutes was made by Alisha Grove and seconded by Nathan Querry. The motion carried.

## **Committee Reorganization:**

Matt Price reported he was reappointed as Chairman and Matt Bjorkman was reappointed as Secretary during the January 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, but an appointment for Vice Chairman was tabled until today's meeting. Alisha Grove stated she is willing to serve as Vice Chairman. Judy Scott made a motion to appoint Alisha Grove as Vice Chairman. Jess Weir seconded the motion. The motion carried.

## **9/11 Trail/Main Line Canal Greenway Subcommittee Report**

Matt Price reported work on the Lower Trail bridge is to resume in March or April.

Segment 1 – Judy Scott reported action is on hold, but no negative feedback has been received so far.

Judy reported the Melvin Lane Nature Park Project in Alexandria Borough, including a river launch, would be moving forward with a DCNR grant. She acknowledged the Park project came about due to Matt Price's outreach to the property owner. Judy explained positive interaction with Juniata College and noted the importance of maintaining future communications for potential collaboration on environmental studies and 250th anniversary events in Alexandria Borough.

Segment 13 – Tom Yoder explained a meeting was scheduled with Norfolk Southern regarding the railroad bridge but the meeting was not held since the Norfolk Southern is not making property decisions after the purchase by Union Pacific was announced.

Segment 17 – Nathan Querry had nothing to report regarding Segment 17. He did report that the Mount Union School Board gave approval for he and George Conrad to reroute a portion of the Riverwalk Trail to address a washout and construct a small bridge. He also discussed potential development opportunities in around the Riverwalk Trail and Riverside Park, but acknowledged provision of restroom facilities remain an ongoing issue.

Segment 19 – Alisha Grove had nothing to report regarding Segment 19. Matt Price reported a significant fire at the old stone house (Legion) near the Kistler Bridge is in progress now. While devastating for the Legion, he commented the Legion's decision to rebuild or move to the Country Club could potentially allow an opportunity for creation of a trailhead. Nathan Querry asked about the possibility of connecting the Riverwalk Trail to the Legion's property for a loop trail through Mount Union. Depending on the outcome of the fire, this could also be a possibility.

Matt Price reported he has not heard anything more regarding the September 11<sup>th</sup> National Memorial Trail signage project. He had provided municipal contact information and Jeff McCauley was following up with Smithfield Township, Henderson Township and Mill Creek Borough.

#### **Outreach and Education Subcommittee Report:**

Matt Price stated that the Visitors' Bureau press release for the America 250 Challenge is out and information is available at <https://raystown.org/america250/america250-active-challenge/>. Laurie Nearhood had no information to report on the Southern Alleghenies Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan, but indicated funding is being sought to update the Southern Alleghenies Greenways Plan.

#### **Lifeways Subcommittee Report:**

Laurie Nearhood reported County Planning Commission comments were sent to Logan Township and Petersburg Borough regarding the proposed Dollar General beside the Juniata Valley Senior Center. She had no knowledge of municipal action.

#### **Trail Network Connections Subcommittee Report:**

Matt Price explained the Allegheny Ridge Corporation manages the Juniata River Water Trail and they are updating the trail map. He has reviewed new mapping and started an email with comments and revisions.

Jess Weir mentioned RAMBO's President is conducting a survey to increase local involvement and participation in the club's activities. She reported RAMBO is also planning for Dirt Fest in May and working on trail projects to prepare for the event.

Matt Price reported an American Hiking Society alternative break group will be hosted in Hesston in March for trail work. He also reported the Rothrock Trail Alliance's Phase 2 project is expected to be completed in April, with Phase 3 funded but facing delays until 2027 due to environmental reviews. Additionally, Matt noted positive progress on the Saxton trail connection project to extend the Huntingdon and Broad Top Rail Trail into Saxton Borough. Regarding the Standing Stone Trail, Matt stated the Visitors Bureau awarded a grant for an Eagle Scout project to build a shelter on Three Springs Borough property near the water treatment plant and that development of a trail loop on Jack's Mountain at the Thousand Steps is planned.

James Campbell reported Brad Esposito joined the Three Springs Borough Council. He also mentioned EBT's purchase of a parcel in Coles Valley between the two railroad tunnels and stated Saltillo Borough is working toward development of walkways to connect the EBT station to Mastodon Park and beyond.

Matt Price announced grants were awarded to Huntingdon Borough and Huntingdon Regional Fire and Rescue for maintaining and accessing trail systems and purchasing technical rescue equipment, respectively.

#### **Other Business:**

James Campbell noted the County Planning Commission will be holding their annual dinner on February 26.

With no further discussion the meeting was adjourned. The next ATC meeting will be February 27, 2026.