



Borough of West Chester, Pennsylvania
West Chester Borough Council
Committee to Reestablish Rail Service to West Chester

MEETING MINUTES

PURPOSE: Monthly Meeting of the Committee to Reestablish Rail Service to West Chester

LOCATION: West Chester Borough Hall, Room 232

DATE/TIME: Wednesday, June 10, 2026, at 7:00 PM

TEAMS LINK: [MEETING LINK](#)

Meeting ID: 243 349 623 894

Passcode: 7M594X

Dial in by phone +1 814-580-5758,279105431#

1. **Call to Order** 7:00 PM
 - a. The meeting was called to order. Four committee members were present, which did not constitute a quorum. Approval of prior meeting minutes shall be deferred until the July meeting.
2. **Summary of the Meeting** –The Committee reviewed major developments including:
 - a. Update on Westtown resident transit survey and ongoing Cheyney University outreach.
 - b. Discussion of potential station location near Cheyney University and park-and-ride opportunities.
 - c. Review of strategy for state grant opportunities and coordination with Senator Kane's office.
 - d. Discussion of engineering coordination and alternatives to a pedestrian bridge at Wawa, including cross-platform transfer concepts.
 - e. Municipal outreach strategy to local boroughs, townships, and sustainability advisory committees.
 - f. Update on Turks Head Trail reciprocal letter of support.
 - g. Public engagement activities including Porch Fest, Turks Head Festival, and community concerts.
 - h. Continued outreach regarding restoration of rail service and stakeholder engagement.

3. Attendees

Attendee	Affiliation
Jason Levinn	RR Committee (remote)
Steve Laarkamp	RR Committee
Barbara Clarke	RR Committee
Jim Sargent	RR Committee
Alden Ritchie	Contributor
Nate Lichtenstein	Delaware Valley Association of Rail Passengers
Al Fazio	Guest

4. Business

a. Review of Open Action Items

#	Full Description	Due Date	Responsible Party	Comments
35	Student/Resident Transit Surveys	7/31/2026	Barker	Westtown survey received; Cheyney outreach ongoing.
43	Schedule a general meeting with Senator Kane's office to maintain engagement	7/31/2026	Levinn/ Laarkamp	Reach out to setup meeting following initial discussions with engineering firms.
46	Project Presentations to Media Borough and Middletown Township	8/31/2026	Laarkamp	Positive initial meeting; pursuing letter of support
49	Turks Head Trail (THT) Reciprocal Letters of Support	7/30/2026	Barker	Mutual letter drafting in progress.
52	Public engagement tabling materials	5/30/2026	Clarke	QR codes, outreach cards
53	Cheyney Engagement	7/31/2026	Barker/ Levinn	Potential collaboration around station location and ridership base
54	Quarterly RRC Update to Borough Council	7/14/2026	Levinn	

b. Nonprofit and Grant Development

- i. Jack Farrell reported that Friends of West Chester is now active under new leadership and is being registered in federal grant systems, including SAM.gov and Grants.gov.
- ii. Committee members discussed coordination with engineering consultants and development of grant application materials, including budgets and technical documentation.

c. Turks Head Trail Coordination

- i. The Committee reviewed a draft reciprocal letter of support between the Rail Committee and the Turks Head Trail organization supporting rail-with-trail concepts and improved station access

d. Municipal Outreach

- i. Media Borough continues to review a proposed letter of support. The matter is expected to proceed through committee and Borough Council review during the summer.

e. State and Federal Grant Opportunities

- i. The Committee discussed coordination with Senator Kane’s staff and other stakeholders regarding future grant applications and technical support.

f. Public Engagement

- i. Plan and design an education kiosk, such as a portable display to be set up at events and school presentations
- ii. Members reported on continuing community interest in rail restoration and discussed participation in outreach and tabling events:
 - 1. Concerts in the parks

g. West Chester Railroad Fundraiser

- i. Members attended the June 6 Glen Mills Station fundraising event to strengthen relationships with the West Chester Railroad stakeholders and observed ongoing restoration efforts.

5. New Business

- a. No additional business was introduced

6. Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 8, 2026, at 7:00 PM (Room 232 and via Microsoft Teams)

7. Adjourn -8:00 PM

Committee Membership		
• Jason Levinn, Chair	• Craig Blizzard	• Kim Bove
• Jim Sargent	• Steve Laarkamp	• Liz Young
• Bill McCann	• Charlot Barker	• Barbara Clarke
