

East Pikeland Township
Park & Recreation Board Meeting
February 16, 2012

Present: Jerry Miller, Caesar Muzzioli, Shannon Wood, Jeff Grable.

Staff: Kim Moretti, Township Manager. Guests: Sean McShane, Martha Laird, Jared Laird.

Meeting began at 7:00pm - Minutes were approved for January 19, 2011 meeting.

Presentation of Boy Scout Eagle Project by Scout Jared Laird - Jared proposed cutting/clearing a 10 foot wide path (8' for trail and a 2' growth buffer) starting at the Hares Hill Iron Bridge running along the French Creek until the location of the second proposed bridge for the trail. Jared's investigation uncovered a hunter's stand that must be removed and downed trees & branches that will be cut and used to line the trail. The Township will supply mulch that will be used on the trail to even the surface and keep the trail dry. The Scout troop will begin in March/April and plan to finish within 4-6 weeks. Shannon suggested that Jared and the Township look into marking the flora & fauna with descriptive signs to identify species. The project was approved.

French Creek Trail - Jerry suggested that the proposed porous pavement on the old access road to Rapps Dam might not be the best use of Township dollars, as the upkeep will be extensive. Proposed was regular asphalt to comply with ADA trail accessibility requirements. One suggestion was a 4 foot paved trail with several feet on each side of stone or other material to allow for emergency car & maintenance truck traffic. Kim and Ed Theurkauf will review.

Membership - Caesar Nominated Sean McShane for membership to the Board. Shannon seconded. Approval was unanimous. Kim will bring this matter before the Board of Supervisors at their March meeting.

Township Wide Trail Plan – Kim supplied the latest Township Trail map for open discussion of priorities:

- 1) French Creek Trail linked to Schuylkill River Trail
- 2) Kimberton Loop tie-in with French Creek Trail
- 3) Connection to Pickering Creek Trail
- 4) Link to Charleston Park on Township Line Road

Sean initiated discussion of what properties are available for trail easements:

- A) Sam Hart Property (across creek from radio tower property) is essentially useless to owner, but may have value as part of the trail system
- B) Abandoned Rail Road property that has reverted back to landowners.

Kim will look into these possibilities

Sean has a trail database and would like to liaison with Open Space. Kim will look into what electronic files are available to overlay the Open Space map with the township wide trail plan. Comprehensive plan information will also be integrated. Nancy Sarcinello will be approached to combine maps.

Caesar suggested signage for open space properties that have been saved by the Township. This way, residents can see where their tax dollars have been spent. Kim will mention to Open Space committee.

Ice Skating Rink - Jeff Grable spoke of previous plans for the East Pikeland ice skating rink.

Locations were discussed and the Roller Rink was settled as the best location, based on being able to use the fenced in area. The timeframe would be approximately a 30 day period, based on weather conditions, Jan – Feb, 2013.

The issue of the grading was discussed. 1.5" is ideal. A false bottom to bring the grade level was suggested, bringing the approx. 9" area down to 1.5"-2".

Need a wind block to stop ice melt. We could sell advertising to offset costs and put banners on the fencing. Also we need daily maintenance of warm water application to keep smooth.

Need to firm up costs. Discuss supervision. Jeff proposed a trade for free advertising and he would supply employees to supervise.

Also suggested was setting up a barrier to use just half the court. The other half would hold benches and rubber matting. Downside is that engineering is needed to find a way that the barrier will not bow with the pressure of the water. Need approval from Township and commitments for maintenance.

NEW BUSINESS

Sean presented a cleanup project for Open Space Preservation around the French Creek Trail. Volunteers will be solicited to meet on March 10th with a 3/11 rain date. Sean will contact Boy Scouts & Church kids doing charitable work. Kim will post on Web Site and it was suggested that we could put up a portable sign at the trailhead saying that volunteers are needed – 9am – meet in parking lot by covered bridge and bring any tools to clear brush.

Events

Discussion of particulars for the Easter Egg Hunt (March 31) will be discussed at the next meeting. Movie night is set for Sept. 15th.

Meeting adjourned.