

EAST WHITELAND TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION

April 24, 2018

MEETING MINUTES (5pages)- APPROVED

1. Call to Order – 7:00pm

Tim Phelps, Barbara Ann Thav, and Bill Steele were not in attendance. Board members in attendance were: Kristin Thomas, Gail Keyes, Chuck Barbera, and Valeri Bocclair. Matt McGuire arrived late. Staff in attendance: Steve Brown

Scott Lambert and Martin Lutz also attended.

1. Approval of the March 27, 2018 meeting minutes

Approved

1. Discussions:

a. GVCO Report – Keith Walsh (this is a standing slot for Keith if in attendance)

Keith was not in attendance. The board decided to delete this agenda item from future agendas. Keith is always welcome to attend and give an update during public comment.

b. Flat Road subdivision – understand the proposed trail along Flat Road & provision of onsite recreation

Per Scott Lambert, it's not too late in the process for public input. It has just been started. The developer gave an informational proposal at the last Supervisors meeting. The Historical meetings referenced 62 homes and the developer reduced the number to 47 at the Supervisors meeting. The tract is about 50 acres total. They are only planning to develop at the end of the Dale Lane portion, not across Flat Road next to the quarry. They will preserve the cemetery. The density bonus for historical preservation would allow for 47 homes. It's tabled for Parks & Rec until the Solicitor brings it to our meeting. Spring Mill Farm and neighborhood residents will be invited to that meeting.

1. Public Comment: General

Scott Lambert passed along some other playground catalogs from vendors for consideration at Bacton Hill park. He also shared a pavilion catalog for the park. Scott also shared a bridge catalog to consider for trail connections etc. Kristin will let the Moms Club know that Bill Steele has a library of catalogs for equipment. Scott has a contact in another county where the township has purchased many easements (open space tax and referendum bonds) to use for the purposes of obtaining open space. Scott will pass along contact information for Maggie Rish to the Open Space Committee. We are planning to invite Maggie to one of our next Open Space or Parks and Rec meetings to speak with us about her successful open space plan.

1. Old Business:

a. Open Space & Trails Plan VPP grant

Chuck gave an update about the Open Space RFP. The EW Open Space RFP will take 12 months. They envision a diverse advisory group.

Meeting May 2nd to draft presentation for the next Board of Supervisors meeting.

The subcommittee is trying to get Open Space tax on the Nov 2018 ballot.

East Whiteland Open Space RFP

Timeline: 12 months

Project Management and Administration

Conduct taskforce meetings & Public Involvement

Final Written Report

A diverse advisory group

(Business Owners, Property Owners, Residents, Educational Institutions, Developers)

Outreach

Minimum two public meetings

Community Survey

Final Public Hearing

Current documents

2003 Parks and Recreation Plan

Comprehensive Plan

209 Study

Rte. 30 Multimodal Study

Final document to contain

Community Profile

Current Conditions

Inventory of current land

Existing Conditions (Land use patterns)

Analysis of Unprotected Resources

OS needs assessment

Needs

Types of Open Space

Public vs Private

Inventory of potential Open Space linkages

Recommendations for OS Protection Policies

Recommendations for Potential Funding Structures

Implementation timeline

Goals (general need to be defined)

Land Preservation

Permanently protected historic properties

Protect large 5+ acre residential and institutional properties

Establishing Connections

Identify funding sources

Diversity on OS needs

Public spaces in commercial districts

Tools for open space for the development process

Internal timeline

May 14 RFP Released

June 13 Close Response period

July 11 Award Contract

August 2018 Begin Contract

July 2019 Presentation to BOS for Adoption

a. Battle of the Clouds play equipment replacement

The Moms Club recommended four pieces of equipment. We chose something from the four that was different from what is already in the park, fits in the existing space without significant landscape design, and was within budget.

The approved piece is Playworld, PlayWeb Lite.

It was approved by the Parks & Rec board to move forward to purchase.

b. Spring Mill Farm area/Chester Valley Trail connector – update on project

1. Bryn Erin trail connector to Chester Valley Trail

The Township is hiring McMahon Associates to do the trail connection study. 2-3 months for a report, hopefully by the end of July. Public comments for desired connections were discussed at the last meeting. Kristin reminded the board that neighbors wanted the connection on Sidley/Mill and not Moores. It will all depend on cost and other factors.

Steve Brown will be reaching out to Saint Gobain about their existing trail and also our intentions moving forward.

c. Bacton Hill Park (previously known as Swanenburg Property)

1. Update (if any) on Phase 1 bidding status

2. Discuss sub-committee process for future development phases

Did not bid for Phase 1 yet. The NPDES (stormwater) permit still needs to be submitted. ARRO will submit the permit application for the trail connection in the next 2-3 weeks. Submitted by mid May. We will likely hear back and be able to bid in July hopefully. They will also reach out to the county to coordinate. The township has the plan for the ten parking spots and mowed path. The board will need to authorize bidding. Typical response time is 3-4 weeks for contractors. Steve Brown is looking into how we might fast track the process.

Our goal is to get started Fall of 2018.

Ideas/vision for the park from Park & Rec Board members: ADA play equipment, more parking, pavilion, walking trail, basketball court, pickle ball, skate park, elderly exercise equipment, meditation garden, community garden, splash park, fountain, restrooms, cricket pitch, all-purpose field. The subcommittee will review the 2015 addendum to the Park & Rec plan as well.

We will propose hiring a design professional once we can present final ideas to the Board of Supervisors.

15 1/2 acres: 5 acres parking and playground. 10 more acres to plan.

The subcommittee is meeting next week to discuss what to present to the BOS. A community survey will be created and administered to collect feedback by the end of May.

- a. Update from Community Involvement sub committee

Valerie and Chuck will meet and update next month.

- a. Implementation of new fees for Pavilion rental

The new rental fees are being implemented.

The wall by the tennis courts at Valley Creek was approved to be repaired. It's over budget to fix. We asked if an insurance claim was submitted.

- a. Summer Camp – update on registration

25 kids are registered. It's still early. 130 is the max. Deadline is June 1st. Michelle is finishes interviewing counselors. Valerie asked if we take volunteers from the H.S. National Honor Society who have to volunteer 50+ hours. Steve will ask Michelle.

Kristin will advertise the camp on the K.D. Markley parent page.

- a. Update on GoWilma participation

The two sites are Ecology Park and Valley Creek. Steve created directions for both locations.

Kristin asked if K.D. Markley could be a site next year as a way to also market the camp.

1. New Business:

- a. King Road

Barbara Ann was interested in discussing a sidewalk along King into Malvern Borough. Tabled until next month.

- b. Review & Discuss Friends of the Summer Stage proposal for Locust Lane Beer Garden at summer concerts at Valley Creek Park

Matt met with Locust Lane and the township to brainstorm. The Park & Rec board voted for Friends of the Summer Stage to move forward with pursuing this idea with the Board of Supervisors.

- c. Kristin to provide an update from the developer/neighbor visioning meeting for the Rubino Tract.

Kristin Thomas described the potential for a trail along Valley Creek to connect CVT/Township Bldg and Valley Creek Park as a part of the developer's overall plan.

1. Meeting Adjournment - Next meeting on Tuesday, April 24, 2018

Meeting adjourned at 10 pm

Minutes compiled by Kristin Thomas

Minutes approved at 5/22/18 Parks & Rec board meeting