

East Coventry Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 9/23/2008 **Meeting Called By:** Karen Nocella

Time: 7:30 pm **Meeting Notes By:** Flora Kapp

Attended	Name	Attended	Name
X	Bruce Stephens	X	
X	Carol Tucci	X	Melissa Ciacci
X	Karen Nocella	X	Mike Laporta
X	Kathy Bickel	X	Walt Woessner

Guests in attendance:

Bob Dougherty, Boy Scout, , Mrs. Dougherty, and township residents, Ruth Stepanski, Flora Kapp

Agenda Item: Bob Dougherty - Boy Scout Project

Bob Dougherty, accompanied by Mrs. Dougherty, made request to committee asking for projects his troop could perform for the township as part of their troop's civic duty.

Committee suggested signage for the nature trail behind the municipal building; natural looking signs showing the trail loop, distance, information about Pigeon Creek and any significant vegetation/trees bordering the trail, etc.

Mrs. Dougherty asked if the township would be able to fund the project. The committee responded that a plan would have to be submitted before the Board of Supervisors for approval/funding and that possibly some money could come from the Park Day fund. It was noted that there is \$4,000 in the budget.

Motion:

Carol made the motion and it was agreed on by the committee for Bob Dougherty to submit a plan to the committee for signage for the trail behind the municipal building that outlines the materials to be used and associated costs.

Agenda Item: Grand Opening of Township Playground

Karen explained that she was asked by Bernie if the committee wanted to do anything special for the opening of the playground and decide on a date for the opening.

It was agreed that the committee would like to have a small celebration.

Face painting was suggested - Carol to check with Pookie the Clown regarding date available.

Mike volunteered his daughter to make up flyers.

Karen to talk to Bernie regarding use of chalk, jacks, etc. on sidewalk surface.

Question raised: Is there or will there be signage posted on the playground specifying age level appropriateness for the new equipment? Karen to ask Bernie and if plans have not been made for signage to let him know the committee would be happy to contact a vendor and get samples and make recommendations to board.

Agenda Item: Review Playground Equipment at Towpath Park

Karen informed the committee she was told that the playground equipment in Towpath Park is beyond repair and needs to be replaced. She was informed by Bernie new equipment would be funded by grant money.

Motion:

Motion made and agreed on by committee for Karen to inform Bernie that the committee would be glad to review the playground equipment for Towpath Park and make recommendations to the board based upon the budgetary amount provided to the committee.

Agenda Item: Enhance Park & Recreation to Include Open Space

Karen mentioned that park & recreation committees in other townships include open space as part of their title/function and asked if the committee would consider this.

It was discussed that this goes hand in hand with the proposed trail plan and purchase of Maack property and that it was a good idea.

Name change was agreed on and Carol volunteered to draft letter to be presented to the Board of Supervisors.

It was noted that the Maack property has been pushed back to November as DNCR is behind and that Pam Brown is very optimistic that it will be approved.

Motion:

Motion was made by Carol and agreed on by committee to change the name of committee to East Coventry Parks, Recreation and Conservancy Committee.

Agenda Item: Trail Plan

Mike informed the committee the proposed trail plan was presented to the Board of Supervisors at the July meeting and how it was received by the board.

Bernie had a new map created and Karen presented it to the committee for review. Melissa to make copies of the map and copy to be posted in the board room.

There was further discussion on "fees in lieu of" and its explanation in the MCP, whether or not it is part of township ordinance and how the funds can be used within the township. It was determined that a township ordinance would need to be created regarding the use of these fees. Carol volunteered to find a sample ordinance and Karen will talk to Pam Brown about verbiage used in her township.

Discussed the next step for the trail plan and it was decided the committee would need to investigate funding for the creation of a formal plan, companies that would prepare such plan, costs involved,

and formally present this to the BOS in the November meeting. Karen to request to be added to the November agenda and will talk to Pam Brown for ideas/contacts. Carol to draft formal letter to be presented to BOS stating the direction the committee is taking and timeline of project.

Karen talked about the Northern Federation, a committee made up of local townships, of which she is a member, and how they are working on a plan to connect all townships via a trail system. 90% of the conceptual trail plan is proposed to be funded from grants and 10% by each township.

Karen presented a letter and application to the committee from PECO regarding their Green Space program in which townships can apply for funds up to \$10,000 for projects within the township.

Motion:

Caron motioned, and it was agreed, that committee should apply for the monies and for Karen to complete the application and return to PECO.

Agenda Item: Miscellaneous

Concern over latest crime in neighborhood prompted Ruth Stepanski, guest, to express concern about how the sense of a one time small community and knowing your neighbor is slipping away in the township due to increased growth. She thought maybe if the township could sponsor events involving residents of the community it would help to generate a sense of community within and also help with the prevention of crime.

Town Watch was discussed and Melissa volunteered to research.

Karen adjourned the meeting.

