

Parks and Recreation Board Strategic Planning Meeting

January 12, 2012 at GVMS

ATTENDEES: Bob Jones, Chair; Alix Coleman, Marylouse Forcine, Chris Galbraith, Jack Komini, Jeremy Leaidicker, Jac Miller, Paul Hogan, Jim Quay, Sue Staas, Betsy Pilgrim, Esther Underhill, Tom Comitta, Consultant, Hugh Willig, Supervisor

Absent: Matt Finlay, Mike Zolovich

IMPORTANT DATES:

- First Community Meeting: Wednesday February 29, 7:30PM, Ctown Elementary School
- (Snow Date: Thursday, March 8, GVMS – this will be put on website if we are snowed out)
- Next Committee Planning Meeting: Thursday, March 15, 7:30 PM, GVMS
- Second Community Meeting: Thursday, March 29, 7:30 PM, Ctown Elementary School
- Committee Planning Meeting: **Wednesday**, April 18, 7:30 PM, GVMS
- Final Community Meeting: Monday, April 30, 7:30 PM, GVMS

Purpose of Jan 12 meeting: To Finalize Questionnaire & Procedure for Compiling the Results and to Plan Community Meetings Scheduled for February 29, March 29 and April 30.

The meeting was called to order at 7:45PM by Chairman Bob Jones

Announcements:

- Bob announced that the first community meeting will include County Government reps, state reps, and representatives from local athletic clubs that use Charlestown Parks, local community organizations, local colleges, etc. **Bob is compiling a list of these organizations and will circulate the list and the draft invitation to this committee before February 1.**
- **Charlestown Park:**
The Phoenixville Area Soccer Club's contracts will come up in October; Parks and Recreation board will try to renew the contract in advance.
The Permit for the dam repair at Charlestown Park has been received. Procedure for asking for bids will commence.
- **Mowing Contract**
The Mowing contract will be circulated so that bids will be received in time to begin mowing in early April. **Draft bids will be sent to committee for review.** Contract will include Charlestown Park and Brightside Farm Trail. There was a brief discussion about including Horse Shoe Trail parking lot on Rees Road; but because the property is private, (owned by _____, developers for the TND), this is not possible. We will continue to depend on the good will of Fran McIntyre, a local resident and neighbor who voluntarily mows it.

Eagle Scout:

Before this meeting was convened, some representatives of this committee met with a candidate Eagle Scout, Peter Zibinski to discuss possible projects on the Pickering Creek Trail. **Jac Miller** is serving as liaison with the Zibinskis; and in addition has agreed to work with a second Candidate referred by Mike Zolovich – Mr. Ringenbach. is the Eagle Scout to be.

Agenda for the February 29th Community Meeting

Tom Comitta distributed a proposed agenda for the meeting. His theme is: What do current parks and proposed parks contribute to Charlestown, assuming it wants to retain its image as “the Green Township.” Tom stated and illustrated how he proposes to blend the Questionnaire results with the give and take of an interactive meeting.

Committee decided that the Community Meetings should be 2 hours.

The February 29th meeting, will be the introduction to our strategic planning process.

- The agenda will address the following:
- history of park planning – and Supervisors’ goals for this planning process
- Questionnaire Results
- Questions, Responses and discussion with the audience
- Ideas for the path forward
- Final comments and questions

(Final meeting agenda and discussion outline are attached)

The set up for the meeting will include:

- A sign-in table with some handouts. **Mary Louise Forcine** volunteered to staff this table; **Tom Comitta will provide the handouts (Trail Map, Agenda, other)**
- An Aerial Map of the township (**Tom will provide**)
- A map where participants will be encouraged to pin their locations. **Jeremy Leiadicker** volunteered to staff this and **Jac Miller will work with the maps to point out trails.**
- There will be Refreshments – **Esther Underhill and Tom Comitta** will work together on refreshments. (Charlestown School has approved refreshments)
- **Tom will bring a projector and screen.**

The Second workshop in March will emphasize prioritizing the ideas and wishes unearthed by the questionnaire and the first meeting.

The Third workshop in April, will ask for reactions to the top priorities, and will ask the important question: how do we pay for these ideas?

- As part of the question, where does the money come from, **Tom will check with Linda to determine how the fee in lieu ordinance is performing in Charlestown.**

Meeting was adjourned at about 9:30 PM.

Minutes Prepared by Sue Staas, Trails Committee