

Park and Recreation Meeting

January 28, 2008

7:30 PM

Chairman Ed Rand called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM in the Manor Township Municipal Building, 950 W Fairway Drive, Lancaster, PA 17603. He led those in attendance in the pledge to the flag. Roll call was taken.

Members present: Ed Rand, Karla Vinson, Courtney Barry, Kyle Ream, and Brandon Danz.
Members absent: Paul Miller and Elizabeth Lehman.

Chairman Rand welcomed two new Board members and introduced Courtney Barry and Kyle Ream.

Minutes

Brandon Danz made a motion to approve the minutes from November 26, 2007. Karla Vinson seconded the motion, which carried. Kyle Ream and Courtney Barry abstained.

Organizational

Chairman Ed Rand opened up the floor for nominations.

Chairman- Brandon Danz made a motion to nominate Ed Rand for Chairman of the Board for 2008. Karla Vinson seconded the motion. Courtney Barry moved to close nominations. The motion carried unanimously for Ed Rand to be Chairman for 2008.

Vice Chairman – Ed Rand made a motion to nominate Brandon Danz for Vice Chairman of the Board for 2008. Karla Vinson seconded the motion. Mr. Rand moved that nominations be closed. The motion carried unanimously for Brandon Danz to be Vice Chairman for the year 2008.

Secretary – Ed Rand made a motion to nominate Karla Vinson for Secretary of the Board. Courtney Barry seconded the motion. Mr. Rand moved that nominations be closed. The motion carried unanimously for Karla Vinson to be Secretary for the year 2008.

Chairman Ed Rand closed the organizational meeting.

Business From the Floor

There was no business from the floor.

Old Business

New Business

Bill Laudien's Report

PPL Land Mr. Laudien stated that the Lancaster County Conservancy has teamed up with PPL to acquire a large section of land on the Lancaster County side of the Susquehanna River and some on the York County side. He stated the Conservancy will be purchasing this land for 5 million dollars from PPL and then PPL will use the money for the continued upkeep, maintenance and development of the property. He noted this is great news for the Township because part of this transaction is located in Manor Township and will be a wonderful area for public access and recreation on both sides of the river.

Low Grade Rail Line Mr. Laudien stated that arrangements have been made for an assessment of the rail line, determining the value from the southern most point in Manor Township all the way to the northern most point in Manor Township. It will be a six-mile stretch from the base of Turkey Hill to the bridge at Holtwood. He noted they will be hoping that in addition with the segment that Norfolk Southern wants to turn over to the Township for a low-grade rail trail, we might be able to acquire a ten-foot easement on the full length of the line. This would start at Columbia and run the end at the southern tip.

KL Smith Land Mr. Laudien stated the Township has purchased 2.1 acres of land that is located directly behind the Manor Township Maintenance Building. He noted that it is unlikely that any of this will be used for recreation purposes, because, it will most likely be used by the maintenance department.

Fire Company Land Mr. Laudien stated that the Millersville Fire Company, with some assistance from Manor Township, has purchased a parcel of land along Blue Rock Road, right outside of Millersville Boro. He noted this has gone through the subdivision and land development process and the Fire Company will be requesting to build a facility at this location in the near future. This should come before the Township Supervisors for final approval at their next meeting. Mr. Laudien stated that the LCPC and the MTPC put a condition on the plan requiring that the Fire Company approve an easement that would run along the creek for the full length of the property. Bill described the layout of the land, the flood plain area and the fact that the flood plain area could possibly be used for a park area or open space but no type of development. He did add that there needs to be issues discussed such as liability and parking. After further discussion, Mr. Laudien recommended that this Board reflect to the Supervisors their approval for this plan and include the proposed 25' to 35' easement along the full length of the creek, as a minimum condition. He noted that this would open up the possibility of a bridge across the creek that would connect an existing trail that goes all the way to Letort Road. Mr. Rand asked how big of a building the fire company is proposing. Mr. Laudien stated the building would be 65' X 110' and would be a 4 bay secondary station. Doug Stoner, President of the Millersville Fire Company, stated the Fire Company has a group that will be working on this project. He went over the proposed easement for the property and that the Fire Company would be in agreement with that. However the concerns they have include a steep drop to the creek and the limited parking that would be available because of the layout of the land. The Board asked about the entrance to the property. Mr. Stoner stated they would be keeping the existing driveway but would be cutting the banks back for better site distance. Mr. Laudien discussed ways they might develop a park area on the site.

Park and Open Space Plan

Mr. Laudien passed out the information and maps. They discussed the map on population by zoning and the map including parks that exist. He noted they have been modified to the change requests. Mr. Laudien went over the plan conclusions noting the results in several areas that show an interest in passive recreation such as movies and concerts in the park. He stated that the results from prior discussion was that the Board is in agreement that there is a need for some sort of recreation facility in the north central part of the Township. Mr. Steve Kruzik, DM/A, went over the maps and explained features on them. Bill went over the existing areas and potential areas of growth. Courtney asked how it works when developers give money in lieu of parkland. Bill explained the process and that the Supervisors have already established a fund and have increased the fees in lieu of.

The Board discussed the surveys that were returned and commented that there is little use of the Creswell Park. Courtney noted that there really is nothing at the park for residents. Bill agreed, but noted that we rent the area and we do not own it, so we are limited on what we can install. He stated that a bathroom was added and the parking lot was stoned.

Bill went over the Plan Conclusions. See Attached. They included the programming, the facility, the parks and greenways, linear parks and waterway access. He did note that there is a need for some type of larger meeting room facility. The Township is not able to hold a large meeting without renting a facility from the school district. We also had to discontinue some programs we were running because the school district no longer had facilities available. He stated there is a need for some type of community building but he was not referring to having it be a large gym. Brandon noted that from the surveys, people want some things, but they do not want taxes raised to get those things.

Bill noted that he has parks broken into categories. Active recreation was the one that surprised him from survey results, which included the greenways, linear parks and waterway access. Mr. Laudien urged, that the Board needs to make strong recommendations so we can make sure we obtain right of ways or areas from developers. Bill noted active recreational facilities must be recommended up front to a development if they want a small park or fees in lieu of to go toward a community facility. Mr. Rand stated in past he wanted land from a developer, but he has since seen the advantage to a larger parcel to provide a community center and the fee in lieu of would help prepare for that. Ms Vinson stated that when we acquire smaller lots, they are used for swings and slides for small children and a lot of homes today have a play area of their own. She noted the survey shows people today want areas larger where they can walk, jog, etc. Courtney stated a lot of the new condominium areas have no yards and that may be where you want to consider the tot lots. Brandon asked how the fee schedule works. Bill stated that the developer has an obligation based on the ordinance to supply a certain amount of acreage, 0.37 per dwelling unit. If a developer reaches an agreement with the township, they can pay a fee in lieu of instead of providing the land. He stated that money is set aside and does not go into the general fund. Kyle asked what the size would be of the park they are proposing for the Hershey Mill Road area. Bill stated they would be looking at anywhere from 15 to 50 acres. He noted that area is good because that is where the development is right now plus it has sewer and water. We would be looking to have a community park. Bill noted that the draft with recommendations should be completed and then a public presentation. Ed asked if they have any site in mind. Bill noted they have looked at the area and they must exclude any preserved farms.

Brandon made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Courtney. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karla Vinson
Secretary

Recording secretary
Rita J. Young

Manor Township Park and Recreation Meeting

March 24, 2008

7:30 PM

Chairman Ed Rand called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM in the Manor Township Municipal Building, 950 West Fairway Drive, Lancaster, PA 17603. He led those in attendance in the pledge to the flag. Roll call was taken.

Members present: Ed Rand, Kyle Ream, Courtney Barry, Karla Vinson, Elizabeth Leaman and Brandon Danz. Members absent: Paul Miller

Visitors: Stephen Kruick, DM/A Planning Group

Minutes

Courtney made a motion to approve the January 28, 2008 minutes. Kyle seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Business From the Floor

There was no business from the floor.

Old Business

Bill stated he has received the draft for the Manor Township Comprehensive Recreation and Open Space Plan 2008 Update and distributed it to the Board members, noting that the corrections and maps should be included. Bill noted that they have been working on this for a long time and asked that the Board review the document, especially pages 33 through 36, and bring any more corrections and comments to the next meeting and he would hope they could wrap this up then. He stated that the final draft of the Sub-division and Land Ordinance is ready to be advertised and should go to the Supervisors for approval before the next Park and Recreation Meeting. Elizabeth asked if the Township had a piece of land in mind for the park they want to develop around the Hershey Mill Road area. Bill stated no, they are just looking at this point. Courtney asked Bill some questions about a reference in the MT Planning Commission minutes that talked about use of roads for recreation. Bill stated this is in reference to possibly trying to connect developments through the use of bike or pedestrian paths and corridors. She noted that she thought maybe this was something the park board would do. Bill explained that this type of thing is usually done in the planning stages of development.

New Business

Bill stated that he has received a letter of resignation from Paul Miller. He noted that he is sorry to lose Paul and this will leave a vacancy on the Park and Recreation Board again.

55 Alive – He noted that we now have a police officer that is certified to teach the 55 Alive classes again. Bill stated they will be holding the classes on June 23rd and 24th here at the Municipal Building.

Bill stated that the Supervisors have partnered with the Conestoga Historical Society and there will be a presentation at the Society entitled Life in Manor. It will begin on April 19th and run through Dec. 2008 on Saturdays and Sundays 1PM to 4PM.

Rail Trails – Bill noted that the Supervisors have contracted with a consultant to assess the property owned by Norfolk Southern Rail Road along the Susquehanna River. He stated that they will be hoping that this will be a large addition to the Rail Trails program.

Turkey Hill Country Classic – Bill stated this will be held May 3rd. He stated any Board members are welcome to help if interested.

Summer Playground – He noted they will be holding the playground program again this year but he did not have details at this time.

*** Meeting date change - Bill stated that due to the Memorial Day Holiday Weekend, the next Park and Recreation Meeting will be Tuesday, May 27, 2008 at 7:30 PM, instead of May 26th.

There being no further business, Elizabeth made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kyle seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karla Vinson
Secretary

Recording secretary
Rita J. Young

Manor Township Park and Recreation Meeting

November 24, 2008

7:30 PM

Chairman Ed Rand called the Manor Township Park and Recreation Meeting to order, at the Manor Township Municipal Building, 950 W Fairway Dr., Lancaster, PA 17603. He led those in attendance in the pledge to flag. Roll call was taken.

Members present: Ed Rand, Kyle Ream, Brandon Danz and Elizabeth Leaman.

Absent: Karla Vinson and Courtney Barry.

Staff: Barry Smith and Rita Young

Visitors present: Christine Brubaker

Brandon Danz made a motion to approve the March 24, 2008 minutes. Elizabeth Leaman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. It was noted that there were no minutes from the May 27, 2008 and the July 28, 2008 meetings because we did not have a quorum. It was also noted that the September 22, 2008 meeting was canceled.

Business from the Floor

Christine Brubaker, 22 Birch Court, stated that she has been a resident of Manor Township for 30 years and has been very active with recreation and open space concerns in Manor Township for the entire 30 years. She noted that she is currently Vice Chairman on the LIMC and the Manor Township representative for that committee. Ms Brubaker stated she has read page for page the draft copy of this Manor Township Comprehensive Recreation and Open Space Plan 2008 Update. She noted that she was very active in the first Manor Township Park and Open Space Plan and is now active with the Lancaster County Commission Green Info structure Plan. She listed committees with the County and other recreation boards and meetings that she is active with. Ms Brubaker stated that her goal here tonight was to have communication with this Board to make sure other park documents for Lancaster County and this document have the same language and all are compatible. She stated that if this draft is not delayed until that is accomplished, in her opinion; it would be a disservice to all the plans. She expressed her displeasure with this document and urged the Board not to rush this Comprehensive Recreation and Open Space Plan through without reviewing it page by page and making the corrections. She also stated that she did not feel the surveys for this plan were done correctly. Mr. Smith noted that the Board does not have to rush anything through tonight. He stated that this document is currently before the MT Planning Commission for review and comments and scheduled for their December meeting. Mr. Smith stated that the Supervisors are anxious to get this adopted because for them it is imperative that they have a document that supports land acquisition for park and open space that a developer must provide when subdivision plans come in.

Brandon Danz noted that the plan process for this has been a long process with work sessions. Elizabeth Leaman stated that the Board was expecting to have a little more formal review of this document but two things have happened. One Bill Laudien left the Township and two the consultant this Board was dealing with lost his job. Mr. Smith noted the Board has time to do a little more research and submit comments if they want. Christine stated that she would be willing to sit down with any one of them and go through the document page by page.

Old Business

Mr. Smith gave an update of the Rail Trail accusation of the low grade line. He described the 5 mile strip from Creswell to Safe Harbor, owned by Norfolk Southern, that the Township has been trying to purchase. He stated that most of the documentation has been finalized and they need to determine the price to acquire the land. Mr. Smith stated the appraisal came in at \$435,000. Norfolk Southern must determine if that appraisal is suitable with their board of directors. Mr. Smith noted that there are some agencies that are interested in assisting in the funding and stated that it could be 3 million dollars. He stated the County may be announcing their share, Norfolk Southern has also stated they will make a contribution even though we are purchasing the land from them. Mr. Smith added that DCNR has stated they will pledge an amount also. He noted it is an exciting thing and they hope to conclude this in 2009. Mr. Rand asked what will be done with the five mile stretch. Mr. Smith stated this will be a trail design area and will be a fantastic corridor. After some discussion on trails, Mr. Rand stated that they should have more feed back on this at the January 26th meeting.

Brandon asked what was done with any recommendations that came out of their meetings over the past year on this comprehensive recreation and open space plan. Mr. Smith stated that the information was submitted to DCNR and they are satisfied with it.

Brandon asked if there was going to be another news letter this year yet. Mr. Smith stated no, the next thing will be a newsletter calendar and he believes that it may already be at press. Brandon suggested that it include an invitation to the public, one last time, to address this issue, even though they have done this several times before. Mr. Smith said he will check into that. Ms Brubaker disagreed that the public has been invited to comment very often. She stated she does monitor these advertisements and she has not seen more than one previous to this one.

Mr. Smith noted that if the Board is interested, they should let him know and he will get the other documents for their review.

There being no further business, Elizabeth Leaman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM. Kyle Ream seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The next meeting will be January 26, 2009 at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karla Vinson
Secretary

Recording secretary
Rita J. Young