

**Eldred Township
Parks Committee**

October 12, 2021

MINUTES

Call to Order: 7:08pm Mary Anne

Public Comment: None

Attendance: Mary Anne, JoAnn, Joyce, Diana, Gary Hoffman, Joe, Lydia

Approval of the Minutes: Committee approved Minutes

Appointment of Secretary Pro Term: Lydia agreed (arm only slightly twisted) to be acting secretary for this meeting. Mary Anne reminded Committee that, at last meeting (when Lydia was absent!) it was agreed to rotate secretary duties among members but no formal motion made. Lydia moved that secretary duties be rotated (certainly in **her** best interests!) and Joe seconded. The Committee voted to approve the motion.

Board's Response to Previous Recommendations:

1. Meeting planned with Steve Serfass, farmer lessee of Mock Park fields, to be scheduled with plans to discuss change to lease to include renewal to begin/end in January rather than May and to include either lessee mowing perimeter of fields and doing so periodically through spring, summer and fall to insure walking trail around fields, or for lessee to leave a perimeter "boundary" of 15 feet to allow for township Public Works to mow with current equipment.
2. Woods Trail to be left "au natural" with subtle widening of some paths to accommodate an emergency ATV to access possible emergencies (i.e. fire/hiker injury) on Trail.
3. Volunteers certainly acceptable to work with Township staff
4. Re: Rules to regulate parking: Gary proposed signage simply indicating that vehicles parked overnight unauthorized and subject to towing at owners' expense. Gary will follow through with signage at Park sites.
5. Board will arrange to have Chris Strohler meet with Committee to discuss Mock House management.
6. Name **Village Square at Stone Arch Bridge** is official.

Mock Park Trail – Next Steps

1. Wes Flo Park entrance erosion: The Committee voted to have area evaluated by Frank and an assessment made to mitigate the situation to insure safe transit into the Park.
2. Joe presented absolutely amazing (only outdone by Diana's map of the Village Square area) map of Mock Park Wes Flo Trail which will be incorporated and improved with Gary providing "orthophoto" map for Joe to utilize with his map. Gary and Joe to collaborate.
3. Tripping Hazards- Committee and Gary recognize Park visitors must bear responsibility for personal safety. Some rocks and roots on Trail are overt trip hazards. Joe has volunteered to **discretely** paint those rocks and roots identified with white blazing paint.
4. Mowing of Fields Trail perimeter: Bob Boileau to mow perimeter in near future as weather permits.

Future Trail Plans Discussion:

Joyce produced copy of "old" map of Woods Trail for Committee review in future as trails expand within woods area. Joe showed a photo of a bench made from a fallen tree that he took at West End Regional Park to be considered for placement at field entrances to Woods Trail.

Landscape Plans Update:

It was reported that Blaine was unaware of the representative from the Vo Tech's Landscape and Design Program failed to show up for scheduled meeting and will follow up on that.

Joyce contacted several Landscape and Design Companies: Chestnut Hill Nursery responded that a representative will consult for free. Joyce also made contact and will follow through with other companies. Mary Anne stated she had contacted Timber Rock and sent diagrams for consideration. That representative indicated interest, would look at site informally, and offer thoughts. This discussion led to: (wait for it)

MASTER PLAN GRANT UPDATE:

Mary Anne reported she had perused the material distributed to members by Ann, found it as mind boggling as Lydia did and contacted the local DCNR office. She spoke with Christine in that office who was very helpful and made some very cogent suggestions. With much discussion, the Committee recommended that Mary Anne would complete the application, with assistance from Township Treasurer re financial questions, distribute to members for input and return for Mary Anne to submit to BOS on Monday October 18 to be acted upon at next meeting scheduled October 20, 2021.

Parks Web Page:

Joyce distributed her previous efforts to member ahead of this evening's meeting. The photographs were much admired by all. Absolutely beautiful. Many fundraising ideas ensued and will be further discussed at future meetings. Joyce agreed to continue working on this, adding the overview that Mary Anne provided. Many suggestions made regarding web site. Joe agreed to work with Joyce on this assignment.

Revisions to Committee Policy: None

Other: Mary Anne inquired as to whether BOS had updated/signed the agreement with Jackie Mock, specific to the contents of her house- i.e. the ones NOT being donated to the Township and the change that the items being donated did not HAVE to remain in their current locations. Gary indicated he had "signed something" and JoAnn would confirm same to the Committee at next meeting.

Mary Anne also noted that the Township is currently holding Budget Meetings with the next one scheduled for October 23, 2021 at 9:30 AM should any Committee members wish to attend to advocate for increased funding for, just thinking, Parks.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM with a motion by Joe seconded by Joyce.