

**West Pikeland Township
Parks and Recreation Board
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, May 1, 2008**

1) Call to order

Chairman, Joe Carreiro called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

2) Roll call of members present

The following members were in attendance:

Linda Glaum, Joe Carreiro , Darin Groff, Sheila Brova, Nancy Bartley, Diana Urbanski and Donna Archambault.

3) Approval of minutes from April 3rd meeting.

Minutes were reviewed and member, Joe Carreiro made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Linda Glaum. The motion was approved and the minutes were accepted.

4) West Pikeland Trail Committee Report-

Lisa Lacroix presented the West Pikeland Trails Subcommittee Mission, the list of committee members, 2008 Goals and Long Term Goals. She also presented ideas of trail maps and a tri fold trail guide. Lisa said that a feasibility study of Pickering Trail beginning at Clover Mill Rd. and Pickering Road determined that there are two culverts that need to be addressed. Lisa went to Warwick Trail to study culverts and bridges. She spoke to Warwick representatives who shared their experience and plans on bridges that they installed. Lisa said that they determined that there should be \$3000 left over from a \$10,000 Peco Grant that West Pikeland Township received and asked if they could use those funds for their projects. Joe Carreiro asked Lisa Lacroix to call Jeri Diesinger and inquire about those funds. Grants were approved for a total of \$10,000 from DEP/DCNR - although checks have not been received yet. Joe made a motion to accept the West Pikeland Trail Committee Report; Linda accepted.

5) Special Hearing: Township Engineer - Mike Conrad

Mike Conrad presented a report on the ideal location for a full scale soccer field at Pine Creek Park. The most narrow area of the upper bluff proposed by LYA is 150 feet, but then opens up to almost 300 feet if measured along the slope. There appears to be adequate area for a full size field. The grade is about 5 or 6% on eyeball level. It is a very level field, good soil. Mr. Conrad said that the top soil should be stripped. Drainage currently runs south and north. It would require a swale on the south side of the field to direct the run off the swale. We could create small pools to break up the velocity and concentrated flow. The cost to grade a full size field would be between \$15,000 to \$20,000. This would only include grading, swale and reseeding just the regulation field. This would not include inlets or storm drains. Grading should take about 3 to 4 weeks to complete if the weather cooperated. The field will need at least

one season to a year to be established. Next spring would be optimistic. The township may be able to use this field next May.

Nancy asked if he looked at another option or another location at Pine Creek Park. She indicated an Option C which is an area closer to Braefield Lane. Nancy believed that it was more level. Mike Conrad said that he did not walk to that area. He believes that the upper bluff option affords you more room for the field and more room for drainage.

Nancy asked if it is possible to plant more trees on the existing green swale between the existing fields and the potential new field. Nancy said that it is a bird watching area. Mike said that the bird watching area is susceptible to erosion and we would need to make sure water run off did not hurt this area.. He then explained that his plan is to break the full size field in half and slope it in either direction, thereby no side is to a disadvantage in playing soccer.

The half field could be touched up when we grade the regulation field. Mobilization of moving the equipment is the majority of the expense. They should touch up the half field at the same time.

Lisa Lacroix asked if the horse trails will be left protected. Mike said that there is a lot of room-about 200 feet for the horses. Rob Kocher said that it could be congested if games are playing at the same time that people are horseback riding. Nancy Bartley suggested using the trail that has been closed off for years - above the upper bluff.

Rob Kocher asked how the drainage of the fields would work. Mike said he envisions a swale around the field, but no collection basin. It would just get the run off away the field and to the sides. The sides around the field will be more saturated. The simplest way would be to slope it at the narrowest place of the field - but, having the middle of the field crowned gives you the best field.

Linda Glaum made a motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors to go ahead with building the permanent regulation full size field and grass area parking area for soccer and lacrosse. Sheila Brova seconded the motion. Gesa Skalaroff and Sandy Heilman said that they would like the field to be in the open space near the stream, near option C. Joe said that it is relatively flat, but needs to be filled and is extremely far from the parking lot. The motion was approved with a vote of 5 to 2. It should be noted that Linda Glaum is voting for Cathy Grady.

6) Old Business / Report on Previous Business

Nancy made a motion to accept all old business. Donna Archambault accepted. All were in favor.

7) New Business -

- a) Windolph Knoll Field Design - Diana Urbanski wanted Mike Conrad to make sure he uses the data in the open space plan and recreational survey in the development of the needs of our township at this location. The Sanitary Sewer is being talked about for this land. Soil testing has been done. Sewage beds would be adjacent to Rt. 401, with flat part of the property reserved for the fields. Also, they would use Upper Pine Creek as the access road to the park. There would be monitoring wells to be able to do effluent testing, but down on the slope near the sewage beds. This is to ensure that effluent is not getting into the ground water, as per DEP. Mike said that he did not walk the property. He saw the rocks, but did not do a thorough walk through. If it is a huge rock, it will make

grading more costly. He said that as the master plan is developed, the township would incorporate the township residents input. Mike Conrad said that it is a field drip system. Paul Dowie asked if anyone examined the clay content. Mike said that a high clay content would limit the absorption and the effectiveness of the drip system. DEP will not allow a playing field on top of the drip system. Mike said that he has not seen the soil results. Linda Glaum asked when will there be a traffic study. Rob Kocher said that we have to request PennDot to do the study. We are waiting to hear from DEP on the results of the sewage testing.

Mike Conrad said that in his experience, lacrosse fields require more maintenance than a soccer field, because of the foot traffic along the goals.

Diana said based on the survey data, we should have a hard surface trail for young children, strollers, small children bikes. A tot lot and a pavilion would be desirable. Nancy said that we want a progressive look at how to address this park.

b) Windolph Knoll Master Plan Committee.

Nancy said that we need to make a motion to form a committee for the development of a Windolph Knoll Master Plan. We would like input, surveys, plans from other townships. We currently have about 5 or 6 members on this committee to consolidate. Nancy made a motion to recommend that we form a committee to develop a master plan at Windolph Knoll. Darin seconded that motion. All were in favor.

c) New Date Committee Meeting - Park and Rec will also meet at the third Thursday of the month as well as the first Thursday. Two meetings a month until we get a lot of these issues resolved. The subcommittee reports will be held during the first monthly meeting. Nancy made a motion to add a second monthly meeting on the third Thursday of the Month. Darin seconded the motion. All were in favor.

d) Pine Creek Park - Tree Screening

Nancy presented a landscaping plan for screen plantings at Pine Creek park along the property line near the new fields. Nancy made a motion to recommend to the BOS that we add 11 Norway spruces, 4 white pines and ten flower shrubs along the fence, where it is too narrow for trees. Trees will be between 8 to 12 feet high. Trees would need to be watered if planted before the system. Nancy made a motion that we make this recommendation of this plan to the Board of Supervisors. Diana seconded the motion. All in favor.

e) Meta's Garden at Pine Creek Park - Nancy said that we need to set up a date with Joanne Miller to help mulch, weed and cleanup Meta's garden. Joanne is asking for money to mulch this garden. Nancy made a motion to recommend that the BOS authorize the purchase about 5 yards of mulch for Meta's Garden. Diana seconds that motion. All in favor.

f) Park Signs - Diana showed everyone in attendance examples of aluminum signs. Examples of Park Boundary signs were designed on the computer. Designs were rectangular and diamond shaped and noted the Park Rules are at the Kiosk and included verbiage about 'sunrise to sunset.' All were on display for those attending. We agreed to vote at the next meeting, which would be the third Thursday of the month.

8) Public comments. Gesa Skalaroff said park needs to be cleaned up along property line. Lisa Lacroix asked if a volunteer can cut a tree that is down on the bridge to

bridge trail. Rob Kocher said that he is concerned about Cathy Grady and her lack of attendance at these meetings and that she is a committee member.

9) Announcements.

There will be an additional meeting date for the Park and Rec Committee on the Third Thursday of May 2008.

10) Adjournment. Nancy moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:38 p.m. Linda seconded this motion. All were in favor.