

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
CONSERVANCY BOARD MEETING
February 13, 2008
7:00 P.M.**

The East Goshen Township Conservancy Board met for their regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, February 13, 2008, at the East Goshen Township Building. Board members present were: Chairman Jane Fava, Walter Wujcik, Ginnie Newlin, Bryan Delmonte, Scott Sanders, Jackie DiAntonio and Sandra Snyder. Also in attendance were Mike Merwin, Bob Huebner, Park & Recreation Board, Don McConathy, Board of Supervisors, Susan Carty, Planning Commission, and Dolores Higgins, new member of the Historical Commission.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Ginnie Newlin moved to accept the minutes as corrected from the January 9, 2008 meeting. Walter Wujcik seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The motion passed.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

a. Jane met with Mark Miller. He is asking for advice from the Board regarding the stormwater swale along Rt. 352 by the Blacksmith Shop, which was put there by PennDot. He suggested some kind of grass. Stones will slow down the velocity of the water. Don suggested that they check with Rick Smith. Were PennDot specs followed or was it a field change.

b. Jane met with Nick of the Willistown EAC. They are trying to get back to an active role.

c. Jane reported that they should hear something about the Growing Greener grant in the next few weeks.

d. Mark Miller will have to hook up 2 sewer laterals. He wants to know what the Board wants him to plant along East Boot Road. Ginnie wants the same plants and dogwoods replaced. Don stated that a plan has to be presented to the Board of Supervisors with the costs to determine what budget the funds will come from.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Ashbridge – When the Grace Estate was sub-divided, an easement was put in to provide space for a horse trail. Don is working on the plans for the trail. The trail will be marked but not laid. The plan has to be presented to the homeowners.

b. The Board of Supervisors would like to have an educational event for the residents at the Chester Creek Preserve.

c. EAC Conference – Jane will be going. If anyone else wants to attend, let her know.

d. Assignment of Laisions - Planning Commission – Ginnie
Board of Supervisors – Jane
Historical Commission – Jackie
Park & Recreation – Bryan
Municipal Auth. & Deer Com. – Walter
Sandra will be available to help out after May.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

a. 2008 Goals – The Board of Supervisors gave a priority rating to each item. They also added three new items. Recycling – Sandra pointed out there are no bins for this in the parks. Bryan suggested getting data from the hauler as to what is collected and how much is collected. Sandra feels recycling is inadequate in the condominium community where she lives. They have their own contract. Jane asked Sandra to start researching this topic.

b. YMCA Trees – Jane talked to Ann Marie who said the Park & Recreation Board asked Mark to put the plans from both boards together. Both Boards need to meet to discuss a plan for these trees. Jane asked the Conservancy Board members to review the forestry information she provided. Scott mentioned that one area used most by the residents is the Reservoir. Trees have been lost over the years. He feels there is space between the Reservoir and the road to plant some trees.

- c. Chester Creek planting will be Saturday, April 19, 2008 from 9 am to 12 noon. Ginnie needs to make up the list of trees to be planted.
- d. Newsletter – Ginnie will do an article for the May 9th newsletter about the Chester Creek Preserve.

6. SUBDIVISIONS/LAND DEVELOPMENT

- a. CTDI – Goshen Parkway. Joe Roselli and Craig Hough were present. Bryan and Jane walked the property. Ginnie pointed out that there is a 3” diameter minimum for trees. Bryan and Sandra feel there should be more evergreens because there are lots of deciduous trees already. Walter pointed out that the plan shows a 50/50 split between the types of trees. Joe explained the process he had to go through with the township engineer’s landscape expert Tom Cummer. He wanted them to use native trees. Ginnie pointed out that the Board would like some spruce trees mixed in with the white pines. Scott also agreed because the white pine become top heavy and won’t provide the screen that was intended, so, some other pines should be used to fill in.
 Bill Eagan – Mill Creek. He pointed out that the height of the façade will be 39’. This will be higher than the existing building. He suggested that no shrubs be planted, only trees. He would actually like to have very tall trees planted. Jane explained the importance of an understory. Joe explained that there is existing woodland and Tom wanted to expand it with diversity. Bill pointed out that the ordinance calls for a full visual screen in 3 years. Also, he pointed out that it requires perpetual maintenance of the screen. Also, the plan he saw last week noted some trees to be removed. Page 2 of 6 shows the trees that will be removed, because of the building, and those that will remain. Scott stated that white pines grow about 1 foot/year. The problem is that when they reach the 40’ height to screen, they will continue to grow. If they are maintained at the 40’ height, then the bottom of the trees may not atrophy as much. Scott feels 12-16 ft. white pines would survive as well as 8 ft. trees as long as they are planted correctly. Craig feels one or two trees could be bigger but there isn’t enough room to plant all large trees. Don stated the original request from the board suggested that some of the neighbors view it after the building is completed to see if any of them feel they need additional screening. Craig suggested holding back on the planting of some of the trees to determine locations for plantings after the building is done. Jane and Scott will walk the site tomorrow.

7. BOARD MEMBER CONCERNS

- a. Ginnie reported that she attended the CRC conference on rain gardens and barrels at Penn State Delaware County campus. There is a provision in the PA statutes for this. She thinks an article for the Newsletter on this topic is necessary. Jane would like to see more naturalization of the retention basins. Dolores Higgins suggested a rain barrel be put at the Blacksmith Shop or Plank House.
- b. Bryan reported that Jane & he attended the conference about grants at the Delaware County Community College. The speaker was Joe Sestak. It was very interesting and he has a contact to help with grants.

8. LAISION REPORTS

- a. Historic Commission – Dolores Higgins reported that the first Living History Day will be June 7, 2008 and will celebrate the 200th birthday of the Plank House. They would appreciate any help.
- b. Park & Recreation – Bob reported that the Board approved a policy for geocacheing, which will require a permit. The March 6th meeting will start at 6:30 p.m.
- c. Board of Supervisors – Don reported that there was a house fire with a fatality. There is a proposal to put a bridge across the Ridley Creek in Ashbridge. Regarding deer management, the Board approved the purchase of 10 bait stations. Residents will be able to purchase tubes that they can place outside which will kill the ticks on the mice. There are concerns about the understory in the woods because the deer are eating it. Greener Policy – Don wants this to be an agenda item. The residents need to know what they can do to make things greener. Bob suggested that the Conservancy Board put up a table at the 4th of July event to hand out pamphlets.
- d. Planning Commission – Susan reported the Mita withdrew their plan for now. Cingular/ATT is replacing equipment on their site. Willis still has not presented an official bill of sale for the property. There is ongoing discussion with Harlan.

9. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

a. None.

10. **ADJOURNMENT** - There being no further business, Scott made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sandra seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary

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