

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
CONSERVANCY BOARD MEETING**

August 14, 2013

7:00 P.M.

The East Goshen Township Conservancy Board met for their regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, August 14, 2013 at the East Goshen Township Building. Board members present were: Chairman Sandra Snyder, Bryan Del Monte, Rachael Burgos, Scott Sanders, Virginia Newlin, Walter Wujcik & Bill Coffey. Others present: Erich Meyer, Park & Recreation Commission, Janet Emmanuel, Township Supervisor, and Bill Egan, resident.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sandy Snyder called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Chairman led the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence to remember our troops and first responders.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Chairman noted that the minutes of the May 8, 2013 meeting were approved.

The Chairman noted that the minutes of the June 12, 2013 meeting were approved as corrected.

SUBDIVISION PLANS

Sunny Ridge Farms, Colonial Lane – The applicant Rick Bunn and engineer John Mullin were present. John explained that the property is located on the northwest side of Colonial Lane. The existing house has been vacant for a few years. They plan to build 4 new homes. He would like to have a site walk to determine which trees can be saved. It was decided that the Board members will meet at the site this Saturday, August 17th at 9:00 am. Scott will meet John before Saturday to walk the site and will send Sandy a report.

VARIANCES

QVC – No representatives were present. They want to expand the area where the satellite dishes are and add 6 more dishes. They are asking the Conservancy Board for suggestions to replace the arborvitae trees with deer resistant trees. Scott suggested Thuja (Green Giant) in the back. This is an aggressive grower so it will require maintenance. For the front, he suggested Pieris Japonica, an evergreen that flowers in the spring and does well in shade or sun. Sandy will send a letter.

BUDGET

1. 2013 Remaining Budget - Sandy reviewed Jon Altshul's memo and report for 2013 Year-End Projection. Although the report shows a balance of \$5300.00 remaining in the Landscaping line item, when Weeds Inc. gets paid approximately \$2800.00 for this year's spraying, \$1700.00 will remain. Suggestions for a year-end project:

Bryan mentioned that 6 of the original 200+ trees planted by the YMCA in Clymer's Woods are dead and need to be replaced. Also, plants are needed where the Alder trees were removed in Applebrook. Scott mentioned the proposed walking path along Reservoir Road. If it is approved, the CB could plant a few trees along it.

Ginnie suggested planting understory plants in Clymer's Woods and put up a fence to keep the deer out. She also suggested more, smaller trees on E Boot Road.

Discussion on replacing the 6 trees in Clymer's Woods:

Scott reminded everyone about using volunteers to do the planting. The cost of trees with volunteers planting may be \$300 each. He prefers to plant in the fall. Nurseries are discounting now so he will contact Shemin Nursery. He will try to contact the YMCA to see if they will contribute anything. He cautioned against using native trees that are being invaded; i.e., ash trees. Ginnie suggested 6, 6" caliper native trees of same or similar type as those originally planted.

Bill moved to increase the Landscaping fund from \$5300 to \$6100 which is an increase of \$800. Scott seconded the motion.

Ginnie feels the BOS should pay for replacing these trees. None of the cost should come out of the CB budget. A vote was taken. The motion passed with 5 yes and 1 no vote. Sandy will fill out the worksheet for Jon Altshul.

2. 2014 Proposed Budget – After some discussion, Scott moved to submit a proposed budget for 2014 as follows:

Wages	\$500
Supplies/Materials	\$1000
Professional Services	\$1000
Landscaping	<u>\$5600</u>
Total	\$8100

Bill seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

CLYMER'S WOODS

Sandy reviewed the memo from Rick Smith about mowing in Clymer's Woods. Scott suggested putting wood chips around the trees to keep the grass from growing. It would also help increase the growth of the trees. The chips should be at least 2" deep and 3-5" away from the base of the trees. Ginnie feels there are no negatives except getting it done.

Public Comment - Erich agreed and estimates it will take 500 yards of chips.

Bill Egan has suggested this to the BOS. He also likes the idea of understory shrubs.

Sandy will discuss this with Mark Miller and Rick Smith.

LIAISON REPORTS

1. Historical Commission – Bryan reported that they are also working on the 2014 budget and the "Battle of the Clouds". The Living History Day and Town Tours & Village Walk events went well.

2. Municipal Authority – Walter reported that the Marydell and Hershey Mill diversion projects are done. They awarded the contract for the Preserve diversion project. One day in June the RCSTP received 1.2 million gallons of water. The West Goshen case has been given to a new judge.

BOARD MEMBER CONCERNS

1. Bryan mentioned the 6/27 email from Rick Smith stating that the Ridley Creek has been listed as "impaired". Ann Murphy of the CRC confirmed this. It is probably caused by development and lack of riparian buffer. The buffer must be increased and East Goshen needs to mow less often.

2. Bryan rides his bike several days a week in Applebrook. Lately he has seen people with leashed dogs hunting ground hogs in the area west of the Chamber building. This should not be allowed in the park. Erich checked the PA Game Commission information and it shows that it is open season with no restrictions on ground hogs, but he feels that we need to find out if it is allowed in the park since deer hunting is not. Sandy will contact Rick Smith about this.

3. Ginnie is concerned that Mark Gordon wrote letters for the CB. She objects that someone not on the CB is writing letters. If that is the case, though, she feels the letter should have been reviewed and approved by the Board before it was signed. Sandy explained that this letter was in response to the meeting with Goshen Meadows. There were many items that the Board didn't like about their plan. Mark offered to write the response letter. Sandy agreed because Mark is more knowledgeable about subdivision plans. Sandy reviewed it, made a few changes and signed it. She has written letters for the Board and was never told that they had to be reviewed.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Kiefer
Recording Secretary