

EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
ANNUAL PLANNING SESSION
JANUARY 17, 2009

The East Goshen Township Board of Supervisors and other ABC members met Saturday, January 17, 2009, at 7:45am at the East Goshen Township Building for the Annual Planning Session. In attendance were Board of Supervisors Chairman Marty Shane, Vice Chairman Carmen Battavio, Supervisors Joseph McDonough, Don McConathy and Thom Clapper. Also present were Township Manager Rick Smith, Assistant Township Manager Joe Gill, Director of Public Works Mark Miller, and Director of Recreation Frank Vattalino.

OPENING REMARKS FROM MARTY SHANE

Chairman Marty Shane welcomed those in attendance at 8:05am. He introduced Joe Gill, the new Assistant Township Manager.

Marty announced that the Supervisors are going to start keeping track of each ABC's goals for the Comprehensive Plan. Marty thanked the ABCs for providing regular status reports of goals and accomplishments to the Board, and said that in 2009, the reports will not be required quarterly. Instead, just three reports will be required as follows:

- First report – end of April
- Second report – end of August
- Third report – close of the year

Marty noted that the economic conditions have impacted the Township's finances, and the Supervisors have worked hard to cut \$300K from the 2009 budget. Expenses are going to be watched more closely than ever. Joe Gill will work on developing a new purchase order authorization process. The details will be communicated to the ABCs.

Marty reminded everyone to observe the email policy. Email should only be used to convey information, and not be used for debate or discussion.

CONSERVANCY BOARD

Conservancy Board members in attendance were Jane Fava, Bryan Delmonte, Ginny Newlin, and Walter Wujcik. Jane presented the Conservancy Boards goals for 2009 that are as follows.

1. Finalize placement of trees provided by the YMCA with the Park and Recreation Board.
2. Increase the riparian buffer plantings throughout the Township.
3. Establish a warm weather grasses demonstration area in the upland area of the Chester Creek Restoration Site.
4. Continue control of invasive plants species in Township wetlands.
5. Call for good environmental practices through articles in the Township Newsletter.

6. Have a walk and talk at the Chester Creek Stream Restoration site on Reservoir Road to educate residents about the project in early May.
7. Investigate what can be done to increase recycling in the Township.
8. Reestablish roadside planting area along E. Boot Rd. behind the Plank House.
9. Work with the Public Works Department to train some of their employees about trees and plantings and how to maintain them.
10. Review and update the Township's tree protection ordinance.

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Historical Commission members in attendance were Kathryn Yahraes, Dolores Higgins, Ben Rohrbeck and Ellen Carmody.

Kathryn announced that two new members have joined the Board, Jason Young and Joe Zug. Connie Bain and Linda Gordon will continue to work with the Historical Commission in 2009, although they are no longer official members. Kathryn thanked all the other ABCs and the Public Works Department for their help and support to the Historical Commission through the year.

Kathryn presented the group's accomplishments from 2008 and goals for 2009 that are as follows.

2008 Accomplishments

- Celebrated the 200th birthday of the Plank House during the Living History Day in June. Another Living History Day was held in September. Both were very successful and brought out many residents and visitors.
- Hosted visitors to the Blacksmith Shop and Plank House during the months these two resources were open to the public. This would not have been possible without the help of numerous volunteers who staff the sites.
- Compiled the content for the *Images of America* book on East Goshen.
- Hosted a dedication ceremony for the Veterans' Memorial Pavilion.
- Hosted a National History Day competition.
- Assisted other municipalities and townships with their Town Tours and Village Walks.
- Assisted with an event at the Paoli Battlefield.
- Took oral histories of long-time Township residents.

Kathryn thanked Ben Rohrbeck for his distinguished service to the Historical Commission. She announced that Ben was recognized as Volunteer of the Year for the Brandywine Battlefield in 2008.

2009 Goals

Immediate Goals

- A. Work with Township officials, community members and organizations to find innovative solutions that will meet the DEP guidelines for Hershey's Mill Dam while preserving the integrity of the Hershey's Mill Historic District including the historic viewscape as a secondary resource. **HIGH**
- B. Continue to work on the marketing aspects of the "Images of America" history book for East Goshen Township with a publication date of April/May 2009. **HIGH**
- C. Plan and implement two Living History Days. Expand activities for both days. **HIGH**
- D. Continue to explore new approaches to attracting visitors to the Plank House and Blacksmith Shop Educational Center. Concentrate on School groups. **HIGH**
- E. Implement a media campaign to promote historical activities. **MEDIUM**
- F. Produce a brochure to highlight the historical aspects of Goshenville and distribute it as a learning tool. **MEDIUM**
- G. Enhance the historical section on the web site. **HIGH**
- H. Prepare recommendations for housing the Conestoga Wagon. **LOW**

Long-Term Goals

- A. Work on the County GIS Historical Project for East Goshen Township with the assistance of the County Historic Preservation Officer. **LOW**
- B. Begin development of one living history program for the Township using a "first person interpreter" approach. **MEDIUM**
- C. Investigate designs and develop requirements for plaques to be made available to local historical houses. **LOW**
- D. Continue to plan for a new Town Tour & Village Walk location with an involvement target date of 2010. Assist neighboring municipalities as needed. **MEDIUM**
- E. Fine-tune the 10-year implementation timeline of the Action Plan for the Historic Commission as identified in Chapter 10 of the Township's Comprehensive Plan. **MEDIUM**

F. Serve as a resource for local schools including the “Graduation Project” requirement of the West Chester Area School District. LOW

G. Involve residents in the process of nominating the Rocky Hill Historic District for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. LOW

Ongoing Historical Commission Responsibilities And Activities

A. Maintain an awareness of the roles, responsibilities, duties and contributions of the Historical Commission. MEDIUM

B. Maintain the development of a strong volunteer program beyond the Commission members that will provide more staff to help with events and special projects. Continue to involve other ABC’s in local historic events and programs. HIGH

C. Enhance and expand the Oral History Program. Complete four oral histories per year. Recruit additional volunteers to help. HIGH

D. Initiate comprehensive research of the property owners. Continue to update the chain of title for the entries on the Inventory of Historic Resources. Complete the chain of title for new entries. Begin comprehensive auditing of file contents for properties. MEDIUM

E. Continue to implement as well as review and recommend changes to the Board of Supervisors for the Historic Preservation Ordinance. As the Commission identifies new resources, add them to the Historic Inventory list. HIGH

F. Promote our Township in the community through participation in historic-related events and activities including work with groups such as the Chester County Historical Society (CCHS), Chester County Historical Preservation Network (CCHPN), the Regional Historic Group and others. MEDIUM

G. Provide articles for every Township newsletter. HIGH

H. Participate in the Adopt-A-Highway Program. MEDIUM

I. Investigate sources for grant money and implement if possible. HIGH

In addition, Don asked the Historical Commission to develop a 5-year and 10-year plan for maintenance of the Plank House and Blacksmith Shop.

MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

Municipal Authority members in attendance were Mike Steinberger, Fran Beck and Jack Yahraes.

Mike shared the accomplishments for 2008 which were as follows.

2008 Accomplishments

- Developed a plan for the RCSTP upgrade, put the project out to bid and broke ground on the new plant.

- Jack and Fran were both honored with the PMAA Extended Service Award. Both have served 30 years with the Municipal Authority.

Fran presented the goals for 2009 that are as follows.

Ongoing

1. Submit an article for each newsletter.
2. Attend West Goshen meetings quarterly, more often if needed.
3. Respond to capacity requests in 45 days or less.
4. Implement I&I plan.
5. Conduct an annual facilities tour in June.

Ridley Creek Project

Monitor construction.

Act 537 Planning

1. Obtain Act 537 Plan approval for Lockwood STP Abandonment Project.
2. Obtain Act 537 Plan approval for Greenhill PS Redirection and the Reserve PS Abandonment Project.
3. Obtain Act 537 Plan approval for the Marydell PS Abandonment Project.
4. Obtain Act 537 Plan approval for the Reservoir Road PS Diversion Project.

Funding

Apply for funding for above projects once Act 537 approval has been obtained.

PARK & REC

Park & Rec members in attendance were Ann Marie Fletcher-Moore, Phyllis Marron, Bob Huebner and Ruth Scadding. Ann Marie shared the Park & Rec's accomplishments for 2008 and goals for 2009 which are as follows.

2008 Accomplishments

- Planned and executed a Community Day on July 4 with a live band and fireworks at the park.

- Worked in conjunction with the Historical Commission in planning and executing a successful dedication of the Veterans' Memorial Pavilion.

- Hosted a successful Spring Festival, Pumpkin Festival, and Fall Yard Sale. The Pumpkin Festival had over 1,000 participants.

2009 Goals

Immediate Goals

1. Review the Park & Rec programs on a quarterly basis.
2. Meet with other Park & Rec directors about their regional programs.
3. 110 trees to be planted at various parks.
4. Construct a pathway up Line Road
5. Utilize grant money to promote programs and activities.

Long-Range Goals

1. Maintain and update an inventory of the Parklands and Open Space.
2. Continue to pursue grants relevant to parks, open space, and recreational activities.
3. Continue to offset the cost of the Summer Camp program. All other programs pay for themselves.
4. Continue to incorporate goals and objectives from the Comprehensive Plan.
5. Evaluate the path systems and connector routes to neighborhoods and commercial areas with available funding.
6. Evaluate all special programs via online.

In addition, Don asked Park & Rec to develop a 5-year and 10-year plan for the maintenance of park items.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Planning Commission members in attendance were Senya Isayeff, Peter Mylonis, Susan Carty, Megann Hedgecock, Al Zuccarello, and George Martynick. Senya presented the Planning Commission goals for 2009 that are as follows.

1. Review the Parking Section of the Zoning Ordinance and make recommendations, if necessary.
2. Have the Township Solicitor conduct an educational session with the Planning Commission on a subject to be determined.
3. Have the Township Engineer conduct an educational session with the Planning Commission on how to review and interpret engineering plans.
4. Review the Adult Use section of the Zoning Ordinance in light of the West Chester Borough matter involving the “Adult Boutique”.
5. Review the “Place of Worship” section of the Zoning Ordinance and make recommendations if necessary.
6. Encourage and support enrollment in continuing education for members of the Planning Commission and completion of the Master Planner Program by every member.

Marty commended the members of the Planning Commission for going the extra mile to complete the Master Planner Program.

DEER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Al Zuccarello was present to represent the Deer Management Committee.

He presented the 2008 accomplishments and 2009 goals for the group which are as follows.

2008 Accomplishments

- **Communication & Education** – Monitored progress in the fields of human/animal conflict and specifically deer management. Shared deer-related information with residents by:
 - *Publishing quarterly newsletter articles.
 - *Maintaining fresh content on the website.
 - *Publishing monthly deer/vehicle collision reports and advice on how to avoid them.
 - *Sharing deer-related information and discussing the program with residents at the Deer Committee’s information booth during the July 4th fireworks event.
 - *Sharing meeting materials ahead of meetings with residents via Deer Committee email list.
- **Deer Management** – Achieved minimum harvest goal of 36 deer (40 were harvested) from open spaces. Approximately 20 more were harvested in new private hunting. No significant safety issues.
- **Deer/Vehicle Collisions (DVCs)** – Measured monthly totals of DVCs and plotted locations. Identified DVC hot spot areas and products that may reduce collisions. Of note: there were 80 carcass pickups within the Township.
- **Lyme Disease** – Deployed and maintained 4-Post Feeder/Bait Stations to kill ticks on deer. Sold \$2,000+ worth of tick tubes to kill ticks on residential properties.
- The Township’s staff provided fantastic support to the Deer Committee. Thank you to all! Al gave a special thank you to Chaz Linder of the Public Works Department.

2009 Goals

- Continue 2008 activities.
- **Communication & Education** – Enhance the website’s content. Migrate Deer Committee email list to the Township’s broadcast email system. Stay current on developments in the field with help from the Wildlife Society.
- **Deer Management** – Review the deer management program for improvement opportunities and make recommendations to the Supervisors.
- **Deer/Vehicle Collisions** – Obtain a grant to install a DVC roadway protection system on 1-2 miles of “hot spot” roadways. Measure effectiveness and make a recommendation to the Supervisors for 2010.
- **Lyme Disease** – Consider a “tick study” in partnership with a local university to measure effectiveness of the tick tubes and 4-Posters. Obtain a grant to support the research.

SPECIAL THANK-YOU TO PUBLIC WORKS

The Supervisors and the ABCs recognized Mark Miller and his crew for their wonderful support and for doing such an outstanding job throughout the year. Special thanks were given to Chaz Linder for his help with the Deer Management program and his work on the Reservoir Road bridge.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:05am.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Meddings
Recording Secretary