

AGENDA
EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
HERSHEY MILL DAM COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 9, 2017
6:30 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / MOMENT OF SILENCE
2. NEW BUSINESS
3. OLD BUSINESS

Review comments received on Concept Plans

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 17, 2017

January 26, 2017

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

6. ADJOURNMENT

FUTURE MEETING DATES:

February 23, 2017	6:30 pm	Committee Meeting (Review Draft Plan)
March 23, 2017	7:00 pm	Public Meeting #3 (Draft Plan Presentation)
May 24, 2017	6:30 pm	Committee Meeting (Review Draft Plan Comments)
June 22, 2017	7:00pm	Public Meeting #4 (Presentation of Final Plan)

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**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
HERSHEY MILL DAM COMMITTEE MEETING
1580 PAOLI PIKE
JANUARY 17, 2017 – 6:00 P.M.
DRAFT MINUTES**

Present: Committee Chairman Wayne Hall, Committee Vice Chairman Blake Goll, Committee Members Jim Edmunds, Nancy Aller, Tom Beggs, Ed Tomlinson, and Jim Brandolini, Board of Supervisors Chairman Marty Shane, Vice Chairman Carmen Battavio, Township Manager Rick Smith, Township CFO Jon Altshul, and Peter Simone, Melissa Barley, and Sarah Leeper, representing Simone Collins.

Call to order & Pledge of Allegiance:

Wayne called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of Silence:

Wayne called for a moment of silence to honor the members of the military who keep us safe both locally and abroad.

Concept Review/Public Feedback/Goals: Peter Simone discussed the timeline for the committee meetings, noting that the next meeting would take place on January 26, 2017. He also discussed the public feedback survey results, noting that the most important aesthetic/cultural resources of the existing Hershey's Mill Dam site are the old house, the mill, and the dam wall, and the history they represent to East Goshen Township. Mr. Simone mentioned that important concerns expressed by the committee are to: maintain the dam wall, reinvigorate native plants in the area, maintain the waterfall, and develop walking trails in the area. Peter concluded by stating his firm's goal to develop a timeline for the improvements, creating a world-class landscape with standards for sustainability initiatives.

Concept Elements: Sarah Leeper presented slides of a site plan and the surrounding neighborhoods following the dam breach. The concept elements include a small pond, a Riparian Buffer, a meadow, wetlands, and a network of walking trails on existing easement land in and around the area. The walking trails would be 3-5 feet wide, and be mulched or gravel (not paved). Peter also showed a concept of large boulders used along the stream as a solution to flowing water.

Neil DeRiemer, 1034 Hershey Mill Road, asked about the concept he presented to the Committee which would breach the dam in a different area. Peter stated it was his understanding that Mr. DeRiemer's plan would still result in the creation of a dam, and that he is following the recommendation put forward by Gannett Flemming. Peter also stated that whatever plan is decided upon, his firm would make it beautiful.

Jim Edmunds, Committee member, asked for an explanation of the water depths in the slides Sarah presented. Sarah stated the pond would be a minimum of three feet, that the island would

1 not be accessible by foot, and that the pond would be dredged on a regular basis to maintain
2 depths.

3
4 *A Resident* asked about the walking trails on the plan. Sarah explained that all trails would be on
5 Township land or within a pedestrian easement. Peter said that the trails would lend themselves
6 to usage by those residents who live adjacent to the dam, and he would not foresee usage by
7 residents outside of this area.

8
9 *Cathy Sloan, 1202 Burning Bush Lane*, stated that she would not want people walking in her
10 backyard. Wayne Hall said that her opinion would be considered.

11
12 *A Resident* asked if the survey results concluded that walking trails were desired. Wayne said
13 that the Committee considered many ideas in their brainstorming sessions and walking trails
14 were on the wish list. Tom Beggs stated that no one wants to create manicured, hardscaped
15 walking trails. *A Resident* said that there would be safety issues caused by steep grading on
16 some areas of the proposed walking trails.

17
18 *Cathy Sloan, 1202 Burning Bush Lane*, asked why there are parking spaces shown on the
19 presented plan. Peter answered that this was just an option for people who would not want to
20 walk to the walking trails.

21
22 Marty asked for detail on the timetable of the Committee working with Peter Simone. Peter
23 discussed the scheduled meeting dates in the future, said that a second survey is being prepared
24 for distribution, and that a finalized plan would be ready by approximately June 22, 2017.

25
26 Since the Board of Supervisors meeting was scheduled to start at 7:00 p.m., the Committee
27 moved their meeting to the conference room.

28 29 **Minutes**

30 Jim Edmunds motioned to approve the minutes of the December 5th meeting. Jim Brandolini
31 seconded. The Committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

32 33 **Adjournment:**

34 There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

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36 Respectfully submitted,
37 *Christina Rossetti Hartnett*
38 *Recording Secretary*

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**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
HERSHEY MILL DAM COMMITTEE MEETING
1580 PAOLI PIKE
JANUARY 26, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.
DRAFT MINUTES**

Present: Committee Members Nancy Aller, Tom Beggs, Ed Tomlinson, Jim Brandolini, and Wendy Bartenstein, Board of Supervisors Chairman Marty Shane, Vice Chairman Carmen Battavio, Township Manager Rick Smith, and Peter Simone, Melissa Barley, and Sarah Leeper representing Simone Collins.

Call to order & Pledge of Allegiance:

Ed called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of Silence:

Ed called for a moment of silence to honor the members of the military who keep us safe both locally and abroad.

New Business:

Peter Simone introduced the members of his firm. He stated that Survey 1 was closed and that there were 231 responses and 73 responses from Hershey Mill Estates. He reviewed the results of Survey 1, noting that trails and access to the area were some of the most wanted improvements.

Peter noted that he was surprised by the number of pedestrian easements that are shown on the subdivision plan for Hershey Mill Estates. He noted that there was a footpath in a pedestrian easement on Mill Race Lane and that the Trail Concept Plan was intended to show all possible trail connections.

Peter then opened the floor up to questions and comments as noted below:

- In response to a question, Peter said the Board of Supervisors will make the final decision on trails.
- Some homeowners are not aware of the easements.
- Concerns about parking spaces on Tanglewood Drive
- Concerns about increase in criminal behavior
- Project will increase traffic on Hershey Mill Road
- Trails will impact people's property.
- In response to a question, Peter noted that the State of Pennsylvania conducted a study that indicated trails are the most desired public recreational facility.
- Why should we promote a park in this area?

Tom Beggs reiterated that the Trail Concept Plan is intended to show what is possible.

- In response to a question, Rick Smith confirmed the pedestrian easements are shown on the approved plans.

- 1 • It was noted that the grading required to install a trail along Greenhill Road would be
2 expensive.
3 • Speeding is a problem on Greenhill Road.
4 • In response to a question, Peter stated that trails are not required for grants, but that the
5 general public must be able to access the site.
6 • In response to a question, Peter stated that footpaths are not required to meet ADA
7 requirements.
8 • In response to a question, Rick advised that most of the easements were 20 feet wide and
9 straddled the property line.
10 • The first survey was deceptive.
11 • It was suggested that Millstream Drive be added to the list of developments in the next
12 survey.
13 • It was noted the “overlook” shown on the plan looks over a silted retention basin.
14

15 Sue Davis noted the Committee has been tasked with deciding what to do with the area and their
16 goal is to make it more attractive.
17

18 There being no further questions, Peter presented the Concept Plan for the Impoundment Area.
19

20 He noted there would be a small pond about the size of a tennis court next to Hershey Mill Road.
21 A foot trail would be constructed between Hershey Mill Road and the pond. An island would be
22 created between the pond and the stream. Pedestrian circulation would be accomplished by
23 boardwalks over the stream or stepping stones that would connect to the existing sewer line
24 footpath. The transition in stream elevation above and below the dam will be accomplished by a
25 waterfall over large rocks or a series of step pools. The area will be landscaped with more
26 interesting and more appropriate plant material.
27

28 Peter then opened the floor up to questions and comments as noted below:
29

30 In response to questions, Peter noted that:
31

- 32 • The area will flood and we must account for the 100-year floodplain.
33 • We may or may not be able to have a bridge over the creek.
34 • We do not have to do anything, i.e., we could breach the dam and let nature takes its
35 course.
36 • We will use native plants.
37 • We do not have any cost estimates.
38 • The pond area can be planted with a wide variety of plants.
39

40 Comments:

- 41 • We need to use deer-resistant plants
42 • Kids will be kids and will play in the open space.
43 • The pond and waterfall have been there for 30 years and should remain.
44

1 Jim Brandolini stated that the area currently looks bad and that the kids will like what is
2 proposed on the Concept Plan.

3
4 Neil DeRiemer stated he is vehemently opposed to the location of the breach.

5
6 Marty Shane stated that the Board knew some residents would be angry with the Board's
7 decision to breach the Hershey Mill and Milltown Dams. The Board established two committees
8 to work with Peter Simone to develop plans on what can be done to the areas above the dams.

9
10 He suggested that the residents or the HOA Board of Directors meet with the Committee to
11 discuss what they would like to see happen.

12
13 Peter noted that tonight's PowerPoint presentation would be posted on the Township website and
14 that Survey 2 would be open on Friday. In response to a question, Rick advised he would have
15 paper copies of the survey available at the Township Building for those residents without internet
16 access

17
18 **Adjournment:**

19 There being no further business, Jim moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 pm and the motion
20 was seconded by Tom and approved unanimously.

21
22 Respectfully submitted,

23
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25
26 Louis F. Smith, Jr.
27 Township Manager