

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **Minutes**

Jim Edmunds motioned to approve the minutes of the December 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. Jim Brandolini seconded. The Committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

### **Adjournment:**

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

Respectfully submitted,  
*Christina Rossetti Hartnett*  
*Recording Secretary*

F:\Data\Shared Data\Minutes\Hershey Mill Dam Committee\1-17-17\_Hershey Mill Dam Committee MTG\_Draft Minutes.doc