Harcrest Park Committee Meeting Minutes

Purpose: The Penn Township Park Committee met at 6:30 pm on April 19, 2023, at the Penn Township Municipal Building, 157 East Airport Road, Butler, PA 16002 for the Harcrest Park Phase II design and engineering.

- Ashley Helmstaedter -- Butler County Parks & Recreation
- Bert Mowry Penn Township Supervisor
- Bill Geibel Park neighbor
- Doug Roth Penn Township Supervisor & Park Committee
- James Feath HRG Registered Landscape Architect
- Karen Trempus Park Committee

Janet Sperling - Park neighbor

Melissa Heagy - Park Committee

Theodosia Regal - Park neighbor

Sam Ward - Penn Township Supervisor

- Distribution of minutes:
- Attendina
- Bill & Kelly Greb Park neighbors
- Cathy Woller Park neighbor
- Christina Sarson HRG Engineer
- Clinton Bonetti Penn Township Land Use Administrator
- Craig Thomasmeyer Park neighbor
- Diane Curry Park neighbor
- Grayson Hixon Park neighbor

- Jim Woller Park neighbor
- John Weston BSA Troop 53 Scoutmaster
- Kimberly Geyer Butler County Commissioner
- Linda Zerfoss Penn Township Manager
- Mark Gordon Butler County Chief of Economic Planning

Lance Welliver - Butler County Director of Parks & Recreation

- Scott Gumto Park Committee
- Warren Carr Park neighbor

Discussion:

- Melissa Heagy made the motion and Karen Trempus seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 9. 2023. The motion was approved.
- HRG representative, Jim Feath, reviewed the revised Phase II development concept considering the February 8 and March 9, 2023 meeting comments in a new PowerPoint, dated April 19, 2023.



DRAFT MASTER PLAN

- TENNIS COURT PICKLEBALL COURTS (3) BASKETBALL COURT
- SHADE STRUCTURE ADULT FITNESS STATIONS
 LARGE SHELTER
 RESTROOMS (2)
 OUTDOOR CLASSROOM
 THE ELIPSE
 LOOPING TRAILS





Phases

Preliminary for initial estimate

CHRG

- Jim Feath stated that the new draft Master Plan is now in AutoCAD and is the start of a construction document.
- Jim Feath pointed out the Draft Plan features:
 - Stormwater controls. 0
 - Outdoor Education Center. 0
 - Planting areas in front of the Pavilion. 0
 - The Memorial Tree area has shifted the Pickleball Courts location from the March 9, 2023 plan and must be surveyed to verify the exact location.
 - Theodosia Regal likes the new Court area. 0
 - Melissa Heagy stated that the new plan "nailed it."
 - Jim Feath stated that he will break down the project into affordable phases.
 - Doug Roth suggested that the Ellipse, Pavilion, and parking be the first phase.
 - Jim Feath suggested that the Outdoor Education Center be a separate phase.
 - Lance Welliver likes the way the Committee and park neighbors came up with the revised plan layout.
 - Jim Feath stated that the Phase II development works well with the existing topography.
 - Karen Trempus asked what type of trees would be included in the Ellipse area.
 - Jim Feath stated that options would include Sugar Maple with Fall colors. We could have a "Maple Syrup Festival." There will be less cleanup with Maple than with Oak trees. Other options could include Tulip trees.
 - Jim Feath also suggested plants with flowers blooming in the Spring and Fall, including Red Buds, Witch Hazel, and other colorful plants.

Harcrest Park Committee Meeting Minutes

Jim Feath reviewed a cost estimate.





Phase 2

Subtotal = \$1,807,410 10% Contingency = \$180,9741 Total: \$1,988,151



- o Jim Feath stated that Phase 1 is approximately \$1,650,000 of the total amount.
- Jim Feath stated that construction costs have increased in general by approximately 30% in recent years. The Shelter kit has
 increased by 50%, the Restroom kit has increased by 40%, and concrete has increased by 25%.
- o Jim Feath stated that the first phase of construction must be broken down to use the funds available.
- Sam Ward stated that the DCNR grant is \$300,000. Penn Township is responsible for the \$300,000 "Local Share" match in construction costs plus the engineering fee. Penn Township material purchases, labor, and equipment qualify for the "Local Share" match. We must depend on future grants and Act 13 Oil and Gas revenues for the funding of future phases.
- O Doug Roth stated that the several years of delay from grant application to funding have resulted in substantial increases in construction costs
- Doug Roth stated that Penn Township has approximately 2,000 tons of asphalt millings that can be used to put in some of the roadway bases.
- o Lance Welliver stated that the DCNR Grant must be completed by the end of 2024.
- Cost savings measures must be implemented such as using the asphalt millings, purchasing equipment through COSTARS, and the use of Penn Township Public Works manpower and equipment.
- Janet Sperling asked what the Pavilion rental cost would be. Doug Roth stated that a four-season pavilion would be used for graduation parties and weddings which would have a greater rental cost.
- o Lance Welliver stated that similar Butler County pavilions rent for \$150 to \$180 per day.
- Bert Mowry asked how many parking spaces are shown in the area adjacent to the pavilion. There are approximately 57 spaces near the Pavilion and 68 spaces near the Fitness Area.
- Melissa Heagy stated that it will cost a lot to get a road back to the Fitness Area.
- Lance Welliver and Sam Ward suggested that construction be phased from East to West, starting with the Ellipse area. This will avoid damage to completed work.
- Doug Roth stated that the finished paving (asphalt binder and wearing courses) can be added to the Penn Township annual paving project. This will secure better pricing on a much larger contract.
- The Committee agreed to have HRG prepare options and cost estimates for the Eastern area (Ellipse, parking, and pavilion).
- Doug Roth stated that Penn Township can begin installing roadway and parking area base with the asphalt millings up to the Pavilion and Ellipse.
- Ashley Helmstaedter suggested that we cannot change the DCNR grant application scope of work too much.
- Jim Feath stated that he will work on the plan construction phases and cost breakdowns in the next few weeks.
- Doug Roth stated that the Penn Township Park Committee has a vacant position available. The Supervisors will ask Township Manager, Linda Zerfoss, to advertise this position and request interest and qualifications from potential candidates.
- The next meeting will be held on May 18, 2023, at 6:30 pm in the Penn Township Municipal Building meeting room.
- Melissa Heagy made the motion and Karen Trempus seconded the motion to adjourn. The meeting concluded at 7:55 pm.
- · Minutes of the meeting will be posted on the Penn Township website, www.penntownship.org under Documents, Park Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel M. Ward, Supervisor