

Granville Township Land Management Committee

April 19, 2007 meeting minutes

Attending: Craig McDonald, Grace Gordon, Mickey Smith, Jay Smithberger, Laura Mickelson, Greg Dixon, Wes Sargent and Frank Annarino.

Minutes of the March 22, 2007 meeting were corrected and approved.

Wes and members of the committee discussed several issues related to use of the township Green Space properties. Among them were:

1. use of parcels based on type of funding used for purchase;
  - i. unrestricted funds allows for any type of use
  - ii. Open Space funds calls for only very passive activities
    - a. Includes farming and continued past use

A discussion of the Platform Tennis program at Spring Valley revealed that the program's original contract position stated that if the property changed hands, it's connection with the Spring Valley property would end.

Grace questioned Wes as to how he believed the community wanted to use township lands; how they wanted Green Space funds to be used. He stated that lands traditionally used for agriculture should stay that way. He also stated that farmers using township lands for farming should be assured the general public cannot walk through lands being farmed.

Wes suggested that the committee not spread itself too thin in terms of energy and funding and focus on possible uses of the properties it has been given to consider, namely the Spring Valley/Salt Run, Pohm and Quisenberry parcels.

1. Wes asked the committee about the township's role in cleaning of Salt Run area. Frank stated that after three days of work it looked as though nothing had been done and asked what tree materials might be removed or chipped. Craig suggested developing a proof of concept in the area to determine the extent chipping might be effective. It was decided that a test on the lower trail would be done. Nothing additional will be done on the upper trail.
2. communication with residents near the Spring Valley/ Salt Run parcel;
  - a. Trustees encourage us to make contact / update people living within the proximity of upcoming events associated with the particular site.
    - i. Greg and Laura will coordinate development of a flyer to be distributed; it will include information about:
      - a. Farming plans for Rt.16 field; corn planting, path around outer rim of field;
      - b. Township crew will be cleaning parts of Salt Run; chipping;
      - c. April 21 Earth Day Trail Project
      - d. High school trail workday May 18
      - e. Community Trail Day June 23

Greg and Laura will aim to have the flyers ready for distribution within a week. Discussion also included setting up a web site for the committee, possibly within the Granville Township site.

Grace repeated her concern that the community be permitted to express its thoughts on how open space lands might be used. It was decided that such an effort would be worthwhile and will be a topic for discussion.

Grace asked about the need for permission slips for students participating in various trail work days. She asked that the Township Trustees develop a form to be used. Craig will organize and get permission slips for the Granville High School trail work day on May 18.

Craig shared a map he had developed of the proposed Spring Valley / Salt Run trails; it presented clearing limits and other relevant details of each trail site to be worked on during the April 21 Trail Work Day. Each trail site has its own work plan to be used by the work teams. Further discussion of the April 21 workday included set up of a cell-phone system among team leaders and first aid station.

Next meeting is set for Thursday, May 10, 2007 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectively submitted by Mickey Smith