

Granville Township Land Management Committee
March 6, 2008

Present were Greg Dixon, Laura Mickelson, Rob Schaadt, Judy Preston, Craig McDonald and Mickey Smith. Guest, Don Lewis.

The scheduled meeting for February 12, 2008 had been cancelled due to inclement weather.

Minutes of the January 15, 2008 meeting were read and approved. Copies will be sent to the Granville Township Trustees, Ms. Candi Moore and Dr. Mickelson of the Licking County Land Trust.

Don Lewis, member of the Kiwanis of Granville, spoke about the Kiwanis Maple Syrup project. He presented issues dealing with the collection of maple sap and requested consideration of township green space land as possible site for a dedicated sugar bush. He said he has possible sources for trees through both public and private groups. A parcel of two to three acres would be adequate for the bush. The committee indicated they believed such a use of township green space land would be appropriate and would consider possible sites.

Craig informed the committee of several developments. He has met with Travis Binkley of the township and reported that crews have cut the trees that were blocking trail sections of the Spring Valley/ Salt Run site.

Craig also reported that Denison University students want to initiate a study of small animal life within the Spring Valley and Salt Run Park and have asked permission to use live traps near the old pool area and near the logged area in Salt Run Park. They are interested in making a comparison of animal life within the disturbed and undisturbed sites of the parcel and compare the finding to Denison's Bioreserve. We will be given a copy of their findings.

Trail blazes have been ordered through the township and should be available in time for this year's Earth Day project. Earth Day trail work has been set for April 19 this year. Planned projects include clearing trails of winter debris, clipping any overgrowth and installing blazes on trees. Students from the middle school and Denison will be part of the work force. Development of a trail near the new bridge installed by Alex Miller will allow greater access in the area. Eric Schmittgen will be encouraged to focus his work on making trail signs for the area.

Laura reported she has been asked by a member of the Licking Land Trust that the committee be conscious of any easements binding within the Spring Valley / Salt Run parcel. The group will become better informed of any such easements and will make an effort to ask Township Trustees and the Trust to clarify such points with us.

The next meeting has been set for Monday, March 17, 2008 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mickey Smith