

Notes from the October 28 Parks, Trails & Open Space Committee Meeting

The meeting was convened in the Dem-Con office at 7 p.m. Members John Steger and Gary Mayer were not in attendance

A. October 2008 draft of the Comprehensive Trail Study

Dan Lonnes of Bolton & Menk distributed copies of the draft and provided an introduction and segment by segment review of his work to the Committee. He cautioned the costs estimated for each segment are planning costs and are intended to be confident maximum costs. It has been his experience these planning estimates are reduced as the each segment continues through the design and then bid phases of their implementation. He also noted the accomplished the Committees objective and direction that each trail is within the existing right of way and no acquisition of land any trail segment will be necessary. Temporary easements along the trail edge will be required during construction.

At their next meeting the Committee will develop their recommendations on the routes, schedule, priority, funding and process of approval by the Town residents for presentation of a final plan for trails to the Town Board on December 4.

B. Communication Plan

To follow up their appearance at the last meeting Grassroots Solutions sent an outline of the potential services they anticipated the Committee effectively use require to engage local residents in the discussion around roadside trails, a timeline and corresponding activities that would increase understanding of the proposal, and ways in which the Committee could maximize their time and resources to effectively educate community members about the Roadside Trails.

The Committee welcomed the outline and will discuss it and the need for specific services to effectively communicate with Town residents and recommend needed assistance to the Town Board.

C. Candidate Town Park Sites

Mike Thelen and Neil Tollefsurd met again with representative of the Schmitt Family trust. An additional area extending over the bluff was proposed for Town Park use. Mike Cronin will gather information of this additional parcel and its suitability for public park use.

Mike Thelen, Neil and will be meeting with owners of a parcel along Marystown Road to determine their interest, if any, in having their site considered as a potential park site.

The Committee set its next meeting for Monday, November 10 at 7 pm in room 102 of the Scott County Government Center and an additional meeting for Monday November 24 also at 7 pm in the Government Center to complete their December 4 presentation to the Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.