

## **Hamiltonban Township Recreation & Parks Commission**

23 Carrolls Tract Road, Fairfield, PA 17320

Regular Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2011

**Members Present:** Doreen Premo, Secretary; Juanita Larmer, Treasurer; Alan Patterson; and Kris Feldmeyer. Also present was Alex Kessel, Fairfield Borough Recreation Liaison. Cathy Jo Lehmer, Chairman and David Jones, Vice Chairman, were absent. There was a quorum.

**Others Present:** Jay Stroup, Fairfield Area Troop 76 Scoutmaster, Austin Stroup, Troop 76 Boy Scout, and Herbert Milligan, Troop 76 Eagle Scout Advisor.

Secretary Doreen Premo called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

**Approval of Agenda:** There were no changes to the agenda as presented, however, previously invited guest speakers, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Feiler will be held over until the September meeting, and the guest speakers are instead the above named representatives of Scout Troop 76.

**Approval of Minutes:** Secretary Premo requested a motion to postpone approval of the July 13, 2011 minutes until the September 14 meeting. Kris Feldmeyer so motioned and Juanita Larmer seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Old Business:** Secretary Premo reported that the South Mountain Partnership mini-grant application had been submitted July 30.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Larmer reported that the current balance in the RPC account is \$369. Kris Feldmeyer motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report, Alan Patterson seconded. The motion carried unanimously. The summary report and the transaction report will be filed in the official RPC records book.

**New Business:** Supervisor Gordon had advised that there is a RecTAP grant available. There is a possibility of obtaining a grant for a landscape designer through the Pennsylvania Recreation and Parks Society. Discussed a Peer to Peer Study as introduced by Mr. Chain to provide regional recreation through the school. Activities might include open volleyball, open basketball, and adult education classes. The Township Resolution to participate in the study was passed out to all RPC members present.

**Guest Speaker(s):** Austin Stroup was introduced to the Commission as an Eagle Scout applicant from Fairfield Area Boy Scout Troop 76. Also introduced were Austin's father, Jay Stroup, Scoutmaster for Troop 76 and Herbert Milligan, Troop 76 Eagle Scout Advisor. Austin discussed his plan to work with the RPC on developing the proposed Township Walkway as his Eagle Scout Project. Information on the requirements for an Eagle Scout project were passed out to the RPC members. One requirement is that he will not be doing the physical labor, only directing that labor. Discussion included coordinating with Arendstville's theme of the fruitbelt, the need

to coordinate our aims of installing educational plaques, benches, trees and shrubbery along the walkway for this project with his as an Eagle Scout applicant of supervising the construction of the walkway including installing a plaque on a rock to honor an individual who has served the community and the township for many years. He would like to dedicate the trail to this special person. This person will be kept a secret until later when the need for Board approval becomes necessary at a later date. He was advised that the quarry would probably donate the rock, but that would have to find someone to cast a bronze plaque to put on the rock.

Austin was given a copy of Kris Feldmeyer's Township Green Infrastructure Map inventory, a copy of the land plot, a copy of our grant application, and it was suggested he check out background materials on path design by googling on the internet.

We will need to have additional meetings with him as the project progresses. We discussed the Eagle Scout Project handout that will help us understand what Austin can do. Austin has a timeline in that he must finish his project by the time he is 18. We have a deadline of December 2012, if the grant money is awarded to this project this year. If not, there will always be next year since he has enough time before his deadline.

We explained what ADA stands for and told Austin that we would not be totally conforming to ADA requirements other than there will be the accommodation of path width and levelness. Austin would like to participate in the layout of the trail. Discussion of what the trail should look like, and consideration of who will use the trail and how to design for them was conducted. The location of the property was mentioned, and Austin was taken on a short "tour" of the area at the end of the meeting. We discussed securing permits to do this work. We felt it might be a good idea for Austin to view the process of obtaining permits, although the township would be responsible for obtaining them.

He will need to get the Boy Scout Council's approval on September 16<sup>th</sup>. We will discuss how we can be sure this will be a good experience for Austin this is a government project. This project will involve heavy equipment, and materials donated from Valley Quarries. Austin must be able to find contractors to donate time, and coordinate with Valley Quarries and with the Township Road Crew that will be doing the work. Material will be crush and run – and an explanation was given. He was told that native or naturalized species will be used for the trees and shrubs. He will have help from a Master Gardener and also from a Planning Commission member who also works for the County government. Austin may not do any real work or planning until he receives council approval. (The Council will be notified that this is contingent upon receiving the grant money and Board of Supervisors approval. We will need a clear defined idea of what Austin can do for the project and it would be a good idea for him to conduct research over the school year until he can come back to discuss this with us.

Austin must take before and after pictures, and someone on the Board must sign off that they are satisfied with the project once it is finished. It was mentioned that he should have a plaque installed that indicates this was also an Eagle Scout project. The Boy Scouts have insurance to cover Austin or any of the additional workers if someone including him becomes injured. Also, the Township has liability insurance if anyone is injured. There are 27 young men in the troop, but he may also use fathers, and other volunteers.

A motion was discussed to review the feasibility of the project on condition of receiving funding and Board approval of the project including incorporating Eagle Scout and helpers participation within our project. We will keep everyone informed of progress. If we are not granted money we will have a good start for next year. Herb asked if we could appoint one person to serve as liaison, and Juanita Larmer volunteered.

Secretary Premo stated that next month's guests would be Township Secretary/Treasurer Deborah Feiler and her husband, Jeff, to discuss trails from the viewpoint of hikers.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Township Meetings:** The following public meetings will be held at the Township Office at 23 Carrolls Tract Rd. at the local prevailing time of 7 PM unless otherwise noted.

- A. Planning Commission – August 22, 2011.
- B. BOS Workshop – August 25, 2011.
- C. BOS Regular – September 6, 2011.
- D. Recreation and Parks Regular – September 14, 2011.

**Other Meetings/Events.** None.

**Adjourn:** Juanita Larmer motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Alan Patterson seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Doreen C. Premo, Commissioner/Secretary  
Hamiltonban Township Recreation and Parks Commission