MAIDENCREEK TOWNSHIP
PARK AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING
Regular Meeting August 5, 2010

Attending: Hether Quillman, Robert Ramsey, Brian Felker, David Anspach, Diane Hollenbach- Township Manager, Kim Rossetti- Recording Secretary, Mark Kitzmiller- Park and Recreation Engineer, SDE

Guests: Larry Lloyd- Sr. Ecologist, Berks County Conservancy, Tim Mills

Hether Quillman called the Regular meeting to order at 6:59 PM.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:

Dave Anspach made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2010 Regular meeting, seconded by Brian Felker. Hearing no questions, all voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

WILLOW CREEK OPEN SPACE MANAGEMENT PLAN PRESENTATION:

Larry Lloyd, Ecologist and Land Manager with the Berks County Conservancy gave a slideshow presentation and information packet to the Board explaining what the BCC does and how they assist communities, plan and conserve open spaces. He provided the Board with a satellite map outlining the Willow Creek Riparian Area and a sample Management Plan.

There was a lengthy discussion between Mr. Lloyd, Diane Hollenbach, Mark Kitzmiller and the Board concerning the needs of the project area. Mr. Lloyd recommended breaking the property into zones and completing the project zone by zone. The Willow Creek Project area includes the open space along the Willow Creek from Main Street (RT 73) to Schaeffer Road and most of the way from Park Road, in-between Blandon Meadows Parkway and Spirit Court. The red zones indicated on the WC Riparian Area map show the open spaces as indicated in the Berks County tax records. (*Definition- riparian areas are the green, vegetated areas on each side of streams and rivers*)

Mr. Lloyd stated the goal would be to turn the project area into a year-round trout stream by installing riparian buffers, walking trails along the property lines, removing invasive/non-native plants/weeds, planting riparian species of plants and trees, and adding bird houses and bat boxes. Mr. Lloyd stated that as the project develops and vegetation grows along the streams, beneficial animals and insects that live in that type of environment would flourish. He also recommended turning the area into an educational area by including information boards identifying the birds, animals and insects and showing how they are beneficial to the area. A specific example he gave was that both dragonflies and bats feed on mosquitoes. The Board agreed that having informational/educational signs was a very good idea and were in favor of having mowed trails over landscaped paths, at least for the first few years.

The Board agreed that the entire area would have to be surveyed to determine the exact location of property lines before any work is begun. The Board thanked Mr. Lloyd for his presentation and assistance with this project.

MANAGER/TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Board reviewed the Manager/Treasurer's report. As there was not a meeting in July, all expenses are up to date.

Motion:

David Anspach made a motion to approve the Manager/Treasurer's report, seconded by Kim Rossetti. Hearing no questions, all voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Maidencreek Community Park

Mark Kitzmiller- SDE, provided the Board with three proposed plans for placement of tennis courts, a band shell and additional parking area in the uppermost field in Community Park. The Board had a lengthy discussion regarding how to add these facilities while maintaining the existing soccer field usage. The Board brainstormed and combined different aspects from the three proposals and requested a new proposal addressing the changes.

Maidencreek Community Park Restrooms

The contractor has not completed the work, as of this date. The contractors ran into some problems and should have the project completed within the next couple of weeks. Hydrants have been put in for field watering, if necessary.

The Board of Supervisors has not approved the bathroom placement next to the pavilion as recommended by the Board. The Supervisors would like to place the bathrooms along the creek side, where the shed it located. The Board will review bathroom placement at the September meeting. Mrs. Hollenbach also stated that she us unable to get completive pricing for the pre-engineered bathrooms as CoStars only has one vendor for this product.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

Lease of Open Space Request

At the July Board of Supervisors meeting, a decision was made on this issue. No further action is needed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Cornerstone Drive: purchase benches, trash cans

Mrs. Hollenbach presented the Board with several bench options, similar to the benches located at the other township parks. The Board discussed using 55-gallon drums as refuse containers rather than purchasing industrial trashcans. The drums can be painted green for trash and painted blue for glass/plastic recycling.

> **Motion:**
> Robert Ramsey made a motion to recommend the Board of Supervisors approve the purchase of 5 benches from Belson Outdoors at a cost not to exceed $2,425 plus shipping, seconded by Kim Rossetti. Hearing no questions, all voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

Park Policy & Park Signs

The Board reviewed an e-mail from Northern Berks Patrolman Wood. Patrolman Wood is requesting adding the codification to aid in the enforcement of violations. Mrs. Hollenbach also provided a price of $265 per sign from EJ Breneman. The Board reviewed the draft sign designs and discussed the additional recommendations and change in wording, from the Board of Supervisors. The Board unanimously agreed that wording on Township park signs should only reflect what is listed in the current Township Ordinances concerning Park and Recreation and Open Space. The Board also recommended the signs be green with white reflective writing.

EVENTS:

Community Day/Car Show Wrap Up

The Board thanked Mr. Tim Mills, Blandon Fire Chief Daniel Miller and Jill Rothermel for all of their work in making this one of the most successful Community Days. The Board also thanked Ozzy's, the Blandon Fire Company and Walnuttown Fire Company for doing a great job with their events. The Board also thanked all of the vendors who had stands for the event. The Board reviewed Community Day survey responses from various vendors and agreed with some of the concerns and suggestions. The Board will be looking into how to increase advertising in the community for future events.

The Board will explore ways to increase community group involvement and provide musical entertainment. The Board would like to continue having fireworks as the finale of the night due to the many positive comments from vendors and residents. The Board also thought it was successful having the Maidencreek Ball Club team photos on the same day.

The Board has tentatively scheduled the 2011 Maidencreek Community Day event for Saturday, June 4th with a rain date of Sunday, June 5th. Planning and volunteer recruitment will begin in the next couple of months.

Tim Mills advised the Board that some of the tricycles broke during the event. He has had them welded and confirmed they are weight rated for adults.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, Brian Felker made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Hether Quillman. All voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.
The next meeting will be on Thursday, September 2, 2010, 7:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Rossetti
Recording Secretary

Diane E. Hollenbach
Township Manager/Secretary

cc: Park & Recreation Board
Board of Supervisors
Mark Kitzmiller, Systems Design Engineering, Inc.
Planning Commission
Eugene Orlando, Esq., Orlando Law Firm, Solicitor
Diane Hollenbach, Township Manager
Zoning Hearing Board
Paul Herbein, Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor
Patrick Donovan, Maidencreek Township Authority General Manager
JoAnn Schaeffer, Maidencreek Township Authority Secretary
Robert Hobaugh Jr., Esq., Stevens & Lee, MTA Solicitor
Greg Unger, Systems Design Engineering, Inc., MTA Engineer
Barbara Hassler, Tax Collector
Daniel Miller, Blandon Fire Company Chief
Chief Scott W. Eaken, Northern Berks Regional Police
Thomas Unger, Systems Design Engineering, Inc