

# Lower Paxton Township Greenway Committee

Meeting Minutes  
March 22, 2023

Members in Attendance

Jim Seidler  
Mike Emanuel  
Albert Banks

Members Absent

Bill Landefeld  
Jennifer Schultz

Also in Attendance

Rachelle Scott, Staff Liaison  
Rachel L

## CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Seidler called the meeting to order at 5:22 pm on the above date in Room 174 of the Lower Paxton Township Municipal Center, 425 Prince Street, Harrisburg.

## MINUTES

Mr. Emanuel made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2023 meeting. Mr. Banks seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment offered.

## OAK PARK NATURE TRAIL

Bridge/Boardwalk Construction

Mr. Seidler stated he has made a few small changes to the bridge, including the height of the railing, and he will use a 4x6" beams instead of the 2x8" piece because it will be more stable. He was also able to secure the extra parts because anything that is touching the ground will need replaced over time. Those will need to be stored somewhere.

He has the two sides done, and they are ready to move to the site. They are about 300-400 pounds each. The railing and posts support the bridge and increase the rigidity – there is less than ¼" drop over 120 inches, which far exceeds standards. The decking will allow for the walkway to be 42 ½" wide, and the required minimum is 36". He is allowing about a half inch of spacing between the deck boards, to allow the debris to clear out and avoid rotting.

Mr. Seidler shared the cost inventory for the materials, including the estimated costs for items he hasn't purchased yet. He has shopped around to find the best deals for the materials. He also looked into the cost and availability for rough cut hard wood beams, and has found that the cost is higher and the material will not last as long as what he can get at the normal box hardware stores.

The boardwalks will be in two sections, and they will be supported by concrete landscape blocks. They will not need to be anchored with rebar, but they can be if we find that people move them or it turns out to be necessary.

### **TRAIL MAINTENANCE DAYS**

#### Monthly Trail Maintenance

There is no one signed up to attend the upcoming monthly maintenance day.

#### Oak Park Trail Work

The next trail maintenance day will be this Friday, 3/24 from 2-4pm. Mike and Bill worked on digging out some of the trail at the last workday. Mr. Emanuel noted that people are using the northern loop already.

### **LAMPLIGHT PARK PATHWAY PAVING**

Ms. Scott shared pictures of the work being done at Lamplight Park and between George Park and Lamplight Park. The handicap accessible path goes from a newly designated handicap parking spot to the playground and pavilion and the portable toilet. There are sections of the other path that are not classified as ADA accessible, therefore those sections will be classified as open trails and not advertised as accessible.

The goal is to have these pathways complete by July for the 5k.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### Hodges Heights – Land Study Preliminary Results

Ms. Scott stated there is concern over building on the site. There is significant soft material for a depth of about 30 feet. The footing would normally be 3 feet. The Township has asked for an updated cost analysis to build the park as designed. The results of the study show that the part of the lot that was thought to be undisturbed ground, is in fact trash cells like the rest of the land around it. The area where they would have liked to put parking is also not solid ground. The Township is still interested in providing the amenities in the southeast quadrant of the Township, but there needs to be more information before going for grant funding.

Getting access to the park for pedestrians continues to be a priority. The bend in Conway Road is not a safe place for pedestrians so there has to be some other way to get families to the park.

Mr. Seidler suggested that there could be walking paths outside of the park site.

Mr. Banks explained that Fairfax Drive connects to Lyters Lane, but there is a home that uses it basically as a driveway. He showed where it starts at Conway Road, goes back to several homes, then there is an unopened section that is wooded and has a small creek, then it continues

to the bend and the newer home, then up to Lyters Lane. He suggested it could be an alternate way to get pedestrians to the park.

There are new homes built on the north side of Lyters Lane, but no sidewalks. The Huntleigh development will have sidewalks along its frontage. Pedestrians could potentially use the Huntleigh sidewalk, then cross to the north side of Lyters Lane, which is wide enough to walk off the street even though there is no sidewalk, and then cross to Fairfax Lane, and finally follow Fairfax to the park.

Mr. Seidler noted that there used to be a Greenway Member that was also on the Planning Commission, and he worked to keep both groups informed. It would be nice to have someone on both committees again.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting ended at 6:30 pm. The next meeting of the Greenway Committee is scheduled for Wednesday April 19, 2023, at 5:15 pm in Room 174 of the Municipal Center.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Hiner  
Recording Secretary