



## **Franklin Township Master Site Plan Study Committee Meeting No. 1 Kickoff Meeting**

Date: March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
Time: 6:30 pm  
Location: Camp Orchard Hill

### **Persons Attending:**

Bill Miller, Supervisor  
Fred Dymond, Supervisor  
Michael Prokopenk, Supervisor  
Jim Payne, FT Rec Board  
Jeff Thomas, FT Rec Board  
Davida Roberts, FT Rec Board

William Arnold, FT Rec Board  
Tracey Carr, Resident  
Christine Roth, JMT  
Andy Mears, JMT

### **Purpose of the Meeting:**

To kick-off the project and explore the committee's goals and expectations for redeveloping the park.

### **Of Record:**

1. Committee members and consultants introduced themselves.
2. A. Mears presented the planning process that would be undertaken to develop the Master Plan. It was noted that the project must be completed and deliverables provided by September 10, 2010. Due to the aggressive schedule A. Mears would revised the original schedule to ensure completion by August. The meeting minutes will reflect the revised schedule.
3. A. Mears led a brainstorming/discussion session, to explore the opportunities and concerns for the park. The following questions were asked.
  - a) "What Do You Like About the Existing Park?"
    - The baseball field is a good and needed amenity. It is used by Little League, primarily to serve 6-12 yr olds. Use is from April to July.
    - The field has adequate drainage and is a good field if maintained.
    - Field orientation is correct.
    - The wooded area provides a nice grove of trees.
    - It is a good place to walk a dog

- b) What Don't You Like About the Existing Park?
- The park is not maintained well.
  - There is minimum budget allocated for park upkeep and maintenance
  - The park is isolated
  - The pile of anti-skid- material is unsightly and the kids like to play in it.
  - There are not sidewalks in community. There are no reasons to go to this park.
  - The existing basketball and tennis courts are seldom utilized.
- c) What Improvements Could Be Made To the Existing Park?
- Playground
  - Walking trails
  - Paved bike trails
  - Exercise stations
  - Picnic areas
  - Pavilions
  - Grills
  - More programming opportunities
  - Use of the existing field to bring people together
- d) Who Are the Primary Users of the Park?
- Baseball - Little League- Bob Horlacher
  - Families
- e) What Opportunities Exist for Expansion of the Park and What New Facilities Should be Developed?
- Woods
  - Playground
  - Comfort facilities
  - Picnic Grove
  - Pavilion
  - Provide facilities on a smaller scale that are available at the state parks such as picnic areas, pavilions and playgrounds. The state park facilities are always filled and rented out.
- f) What are the Concerns for Park Expansion?
- Maintenance
  - Liability
  - Funding
  - Safety

g) If You Came Back 10 Years From Now What is the One Thing You Would Like to See Happen in the Park?

- Big Playground, children using it
- Park becomes the township (neighborhood) central location
- Place that brings people together
- Family Days/ carnivals

4. The following items were also noted and dicussed:

- Consider utilizing something better than wood chips for playground surfacing.
- Proposed pavilions should be fee based and look to provided revenue.
- It was noted that the park has what most people in the area have in their backyard. Most residents have woods and open space readily avialble to them. The park must be developed with facilites that will attract people and give them a reason to visit the park.
- The existing municipal building well can provide water for proposed facilties such as pavilion and picnic areas.
- The website should encourage people to be on the committee and participate in the master planning process.
- Several years ago a suicide was committed in the wooded area of the park.
- There is another youth field located at the Fire Station site that is also utilized by the little league. Both fields are only used for practice and no games are currently scheduled on these fields.
- There is a shale bank in the area beyond the centerfield area.
- The wooded area is not posted.
- There is a shortage of practice fields in the area.
- There is an existing cell tower. Carson can provide easment information and survey.
- The 1.4 acre parcel south of the baseball field was once considered for the development of a new Township Building. Currently the township anticipates any expansion to occur in the area of the existing muncipal building.
- There is not a neighborhood playground in the area. Residents drive to Schools to use playgrounds.

5. Key person interviews should be conduceted with the following:

- Back Mountain Baseball – Jack Snyder – 570-675-0939
- Bob Horlacher Baseball
- 3 adjacent neighbors
- Stanley

R. Melvin to provide contact names and numbers.

6. A. Mears concluded the meeting by outlining the next steps in the process and reviewing meeting dates. The next study committee meeting was scheduled for April 26<sup>th</sup> , 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at Camp Orchard Hill.
7. Provide changes or corrections to these meeting minutes to A. Mears at JMT within one week of receipt.
8. **Revised Project Schedule:**
  - April 26<sup>th</sup> - 6:30pm at Camp Orchard Hills  
( site analysis and concept plans)
  - May 24<sup>th</sup> - time and site to be determined  
(public meeting – pre final design)
  - June 28<sup>th</sup> - time and site to be determined  
(elected officials meeting – O and M workshop)
  - July 26<sup>th</sup> - 6:30pm at Camp Orchard Hills  
(Implementation costs and O and M review)
  - August 23<sup>rd</sup> - time and site to be determined  
(final public open house)
  - September – deliver final products