



Franklin Township Master Site Plan Study Committee Meeting No. 2 Site Analysis/Concept Plans

Date: April 26th, 2010
Time: 6:30 pm
Location: Camp Orchard Hill

Persons Attending:

William Arnold, FT Rec Board
Fred Dymond, Supervisor
Michael Prokopenhk, Supervisor
Jim Payne, FT Rec Board

Sherry Emershaw, Resident
Ryan Mattie, JMT
Andy Mears, JMT

Purpose of the Meeting:

Review the site analysis findings and preliminary concept plans.

Of Record:

1. A. Mears presented a summary of the key person interviews conducted to date.
 - Several residents in the area expressed concern over the encroachment of Municipal Road on their adjacent properties.
 - The installation of the cell tower is a difficult issue for many of the residents surrounding the park. They claim that it has significantly reduced the value of their properties and is an eyesore.
 - The perception from the adjacent neighbors is that the Township does not respect the land.
 - The residents have no major issues or concerns with the park itself. Upgrades to the park that meet the needs of the youth are encouraged. However concerns were expressed about the trespassing of park users to adjacent private properties.
 - Suggested improvements to the park include the following: picnic area, Municipal Road improvements and speed bump additions, trails, pavilions, restroom facilities, concession stand improvements including running water and basketball court improvements.
 - Potential park improvements will help to keep kids in a safe area and out of trouble.
 - Bob Horlacher Little League – Although in need of rehabilitation,

Franklin Twp. Municipal Field is currently one of the main fields used by the Bob Horlacher Little League. A key representative from the league suggested the following improvements that would significantly increase the usability of the field and park:

- The addition of a Tee Ball or small practice field located in the open space beyond right field of the existing ball park.
- Improvements to the concession stand that include bathrooms and running water.
- A pavilion or picnic area
- Approximately 250 youths, ages 5 thru 16
- Back Mountain Little League – The Back Mountain Little League is one of the neighboring leagues of the Bob Horlacher Little League. In previous years, these two leagues used to play interleague games but due to the size differences, interleague play has ceased between the two. The president of the Back Mountain League noted that they would not have a use for another ball field, such as the Franklin Twp. Municipal Field, as their Little League complex in Dallas, Pa is more than sufficient for their needs. Approximately 850 youths, ages 5 thru 16.

2. A. Mears presented site analysis work completed to date including conclusions regarding the existing site conditions. Items reviewed and discussed included:

- Site description
- Existing park conditions
- Existing Wet Areas
- Vegetation
- Topography
- Site Elevations
- Sectional Analysis
- Site Hydrology
- Site Organization
- Cell Tower Easement / Lease Line
- PNDI Report
- Pedestrian and vehicular access
- Site soils
- Site analysis conclusions

4. A. Mears presented the 3 alternative designs. Each alternative has been attached to the meeting mins for review by study committee members not in attendance. The following highlights the discussions and conclusions:

Pre final Design:

- In general alternative 1 was seen as the preferred option with slight modifications and additions from the other two alternatives.
- Proposed parking area is sufficient.
- Two medium sized pavilions to be used as rental pavilions. Consider one in close proximity to baseball field and another to be near the edge of the woods with temporary vehicular access via the paved walkway.
- Add a practice field with the primary location to be considered adjacent to the existing baseball field and secondary location to be considered north of existing baseball field.
- Add wetland boardwalk along walking trail in place of wildlife blind.

5 In addition, the following items were discussed:

- It was suggested that a meeting between the two baseball leagues be held in order to gain a better understanding of the wants, needs, and potential utilization of the Franklin Twp. Municipal Field.
- There seems to be a lack of practice fields for both the Bob Horlacher Little League as well as the Back Mountain Little League.
- Tennis courts are not necessary to keep at the Franklin Twp. Municipal Park.
- A skate park was suggested in addition to the park alternative. It was noted and discussed that Camp Orchard Hill has just installed a skate park.
- Concession stand shall be upgraded to include potable water and restroom facilities.
- Money raised at the concession stand in the Franklin Twp. Park should be used to maintain the park and its facilities.
- It seems there is a disconnect between the two leagues and the use of the baseball field.
- It was suggested that the consultants bridge the gap between the leagues. A Mears to coordinate a meeting with both league representatives. A. Mears requested that Jim Payne attend the meeting as well. The meeting will be held at Camp Orchard Hills and scheduled before the next meeting.

6 A. Mears concluded the meeting by outlining the next steps in the process. The next project study committee meeting will not be held in may. The schedule was revised as outlined below:

May 24th – *time and site to be determined* (elected officials meeting – O & M workshop)

June 28th – *time and site to be determined* (public meeting – pre-final design)

July 26th – 6:30pm at *Camp Orchard Hills* (Implementation costs and O & M review)

August 23RD – *time and site to be determined* (final public open house)

September – *deliver final products*

- 7 Provide changes or corrections to these meeting minutes to A. Mears at JMT within one week of receipt.