

**Honey Brook Township Parks and Recreation Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2014**

The Honey Brook Township Parks and Recreation Committee held its monthly meeting on March 20, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. Members in attendance Lee Heller-Chair, Deb Oldham-Co-Chair, Therese Mauchline, Secretary. Rob McMinimee Absent: Danny Bailey. Visitors: Barb Schober, President of the Honey Brook Historical Society; Janet Heinis, Chair of Harmony Day; Beth McHugh, Representative of Safe Flash; Jake Michael, Environmental/Open Space Planner from the Chester County Planning Commission; and John McHugh, Township Supervisor

Minutes

Deb Oldham made the motion with Lee Heller seconding that the February minutes be approved. The motion passed and none opposed.

New Business

225th Celebration

Janet Heinis asked what we were planning. She said Harmony Day would be September 20th 2014. She said the Honey Brook Community Partnership only sponsors one event. The planning meeting for Harmony Day will be sometime in May.

Lee and Deb said we were planning on having an event August 9th with a rain date of August 16th. John McHugh said State Senator John Rafferty was interested in attending. Janet Heinis asked if we would consider merging the 2 days-Harmony Day and the 225th celebration. They are not doing Harmony Day in the borough this year as a result of the fee that the borough has put in place and the borough is now requiring liability insurance. Beth McHugh suggested that they remain a separate event. John McHugh said we have liability insurance for the township. Barb Schober presented a quiz that she had used last year for Harmony Day and suggested she could do one for our event. When asked who would run the quiz, she said she and the rest of the Honey Brook Historical Society would. They gave something away for the most answers. John McHugh asked Barb to look the Township History Web Page to make sure it is correct. Barbara also suggested that we look at two books for historical information. Headwaters of the Brandywine and Two Centuries in Honey Brook Township 1789-1989. Both books are written by Margaret Eppihimer

Safety First

Beth McHugh presented the product that she is now selling-a reflector that a plastics engineer makes. She noticed that the horses don't have reflectors and she worried about the safety of the horses and buggies along with pedestrians, bikers and runners. The reflectors are two types round or rectangular. They have a loop and hook system to connect like Velcro®. We agreed that it was a great product and should be presented to the public. She is looking into presenting it to the local PTO through Jamie Whye, Honey Brook Elementary School Principal. We suggested the 225th celebration, Harmony Day and Rob McMinimee suggested Little League's Opening Day, which is April 5th.

Trail Presentation

Jake Michael, from Chester County Planning Commission was present to update us about trail planning in our area. Chester County was awarded a grant to study and see if there was a potential to create a horse trail from Marsh Creek State Park to Honey Brook Borough. The first public meeting will be in either May or June to discuss this. The County will be hiring someone to deed research the railroad lines that come to Honey Brook Borough to make sure the county owns the land. He said the problem with some of the railroad lines have been demolished. West Nantmeal has good lines and ours are good and long but in some places fractured. The county has realized that horse trails are disappearing so they would like to create one but it is a 2 year project. John Goodall, Western Area Manager from Brandywine Conservancy and Sheila Fleming, Senior Planner from Brandywine Conservancy are also working with Chester County on this project.

Jake said that we can help out with outreaching to the Amish community once the project starts as over the summer they will be developing their mapping and doing ownership searches. In the fall, he suggested they will be looking at the gaps in the lines and in the spring, they will be looking at alternatives. One option might be going from West Nantmeal through Rocklyn Station and connect with the Hibernia Trail which would then go into Honey Brook Borough. He said part of the study might show that they need to get rid of land that the county doesn't intend to use and they might be willing to trade with farmers. He said the horse trail is the dream of the county. He gave us a map of the proposed study area.

Old Business

Hero Boxes

Deb contacted the Guidance Department at Twin Valley Middle School. Randy Waterman put her in touch with the recruiters but was told by the recruiters that the names cannot be released due to privacy. It was suggested that maybe the VFW could help us locate active servicemen and women. John McHugh will find out where the VFWs are located. We know of Gehringer and Romig. Therese said that she could contact Liz Risbon to see if the Lions' Club knows how to get the information.

Little League Fields

Rob said he will contact past Little League Presidents to see who took care of the dirt. John McHugh will contact Don regarding the fencing, dirt, and painting the lines on the lot.

Volunteers

John McHugh suggested that volunteers maybe get something for free like free camp for their children.

Chester County Food Bank

Therese brought everyone up to date on the Food Bank Garden. There is a new Memorandum of Understanding that needed to be sign by Therese, Lee Heller, and Toni Antonini, as Township Representative. There is also a survey that needs done. She attended the first of about 3 or 4 meetings that the Food Bank has made mandatory. She is going to contact the main churches to raise volunteers and she is getting help from Troop 9 and The Goetz Family. Lee and Therese's family will continue to help. She will contact Mary Kay Peterson from the Food Bank regarding the planting date and if food can go to the Presbyterian Church and she will contact the church to see if they want it. As of March 23rd the first planting date is April 16th at 6pm.

225th Celebration

Therese mentioned the bands that she found ranged in price from \$200 to \$600 depending on the type of band we were interested in. Deb Oldham looked into Movie night at FunFlicks.com and she said it depended on number of people and size of screen cost was \$300-\$1200. The concern is what happens if it rains for either of those events. Deb or Lee will ask the borough and the local elementary school what they use for their outdoor movies. We have to inform the fire department if we have fireworks or a bonfire. Memorial Day we still need a banner for the parade and decisions made by them

Community Fair

Honey Brook Elementary Center invited us to their community fair on April 29th. We plan on being there and discussing our plans for it next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9 pm with Lee Heller making the motion and Deb Oldham seconding. Our next meeting is April 17th at 7:00 p.m. at the Honey Brook Township Building.

Respectfully Submitted,

Therese Mauchline
Parks and Recreation Committee
Recording Secretary