

Eastern Monroe Regional Parks Commission

August 17, 2009

The regular meeting of EMRPC was held August 17, 2009 at 7:35 pm in the Smithfield Township municipal building with the following members present: representing Smithfield Township were Kevin Casebolt, Leslie Underhill and Vince Della Fera, Smithfield Supervisor. Representing Middle Smithfield Township were John Ferro, Al Decker, Mitchell Marcus and Judy Summers. Representing Delaware Water Gap was Susan Cooper. Guests were Joyce Bush, Pat & Joe Coyle, Scott Dietrich and Zachary Solomon.

Mitchell moved that the agenda be approved. Kevin seconded. Motion carried. Judy moved that the June 15, 2009 minutes be approved. Susan seconded. The motion carried. John asked for the financial report. Again, no report was available. Vince again stated that he will follow through – the commission has asked for this report since January, 2009.

Vince reported that the Rivers Edge well test results came back with minimal to slight bacterial contamination and that this was treated with chlorine. A retest will be done soon. Steve Carey will follow through on the retest. The commission agreed that a second ‘clean” test is needed before approval by the commission is recommended to the supervisors. John mentioned that Middle Smithfield Township will not spend more than \$200 at Rivers Edge. Also, John stated that a lock was placed on the circuit breaker box at the well.

Pat and Joe Coyle appeared to formally resign from the Rivers Edge Dog Park Committee. They reported that irreconcilable differences with Joyce Bush led to their decision. They presented financial reports and a check in the amount of \$131 plus (2) gift cards (one \$10 and one \$20). They thanked the commission for its support and help. Discussion followed. Leslie stated that the commission needs to better screen individuals volunteering for the dog park committee. Everyone felt this would be difficult and may need further discussion. Joyce Bush is still very interested in the Rivers Edge dog park and hopes to recruit new members.

The Coyles have formed a new dog park committee with other individuals and this new dog park location will be in Stroud Township. John thanked them for their work and wished them well.

Zachary Solomon from Boy Scout Troop #83 updated the commission on his Eagle Scout project. Zachary had to downsize the kiosk that he had originally planned. His total project will be (3) benches (made from pressure treated wood) and (1) kiosk. Zachary will also plant (3) shrubs (dwarf alberta spruces) to complete his project. He should be done shortly. It was suggested that he not install the benches and kiosk. He will place the benches and kiosk and then take digital photos so that he meets the requirements for Eagle Scout status. At a later date the commission and dog park committee will decide on the best site for the benches and kiosk.

Al reported that there was no Mt. Nebo dam report. The drawdown of 5 feet has not yet occurred. This is probably because both township road crews are busy with their own issues. Steve Carey and Ron Clewell need to meet and work out a date soon.

John visited the Mt. Nebo trails recently and stated that deep, deep ruts are visible. Can we call the State Police? Destruction is very pronounced.

John felt that we should take the necessary funds and do the dog park fencing. Discussion followed. EMRPC recommends to the Board of supervisors that funds that were originally allocated for Mt. Nebo dam repair be used for the completion (fencing) of the dog park enclosure. Discussion followed. Everyone felt positive regarding the installation of fencing at the dog park. Vince felt strongly that the commission should first position management (a new dog park committee) and then follow with fencing. The township can mow and maintain, but we need to establish a new dog park committee. Leslie moved that we move forward with the fencing and oversee until a new dog park committee is in place. Kevin seconded. Motion carried.

Leslie also mentioned that the commission has several different sets of dog park rules.

October 10, 2009 was proposed for the dedication of the Mt. Nebo campsite in Doyle's name. Leslie will contact Doyle to make sure he will be available and Susan will donate 80 hot dogs and buns for the event. We will need to clean the campsite and check with Jackie regarding a plaque. Also, advertising is necessary and the food menu needs to be established and planned.

Scott Dietrich brought in a flyer reminding the commission that on September 10, 2009 the IMBA Trail Care Crew will be at Mt. Nebo Park and the Smithfield Township Municipal Building. Susan Cooper spoke about the Delaware Water Gap starting and researching the purchase of park land close to the railroad and the river. She presented a detailed map and stated that this project is in its infancy

Leslie moved to adjourn at 9:35 pm. Susan seconded. Motion carried.

The next meeting is September 21, 2009 at 7:30pm at the Smithfield Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Summers