

Minutes Middletown Parks & Recreation Committee- Tues Dec 15, 2009

Present: Pam Dietrick, Joan Scott, Jerry Ziemba (a quorum).

1. POS Funding for the Skatespot. Drew summarized the current POS funding that was allocated/designated for the Skatespot: \$3,000 from Middletown; \$6,021 from Myersville. This adds up to \$9,021. Pam told the Committee that she has raised \$1,000 to satisfy the 25% Middletown funding to match the Middletown allocation of \$3,000. With this funding the total funding for the Skatespot totals \$10,021. Pam indicated that she plans to raise another \$2,007 to satisfy the 25% needed to match the Myersville funding of \$6,021. With this added \$2,007 from Pam's fund-raising efforts, the total funding available for the Skatespot would be \$12,028. The Committee voted unanimously for Tony to ask the Town Board to approve in principle that, once the added \$2,007 was raised, the Town would officially designate the \$12,028 as available to the County Parks and Recreation Department to initiate design activity for the Skatespot. [Note: No direct Town funding would be required for this request to the County.]

In addition, the Committee voted unanimously for Tony to request Town Board approval for the reallocation of the \$4,500 POS now designated for signage in Wiles Branch to the Skateboard project. While the Committee supports the signage project, it strongly feels that this project can be taken on by the Scouts, freeing up these funds for the Skatespot project. To this end, Joan will present the signage project to the various Valley Boy Scout groups and ask that one or more Scout groups take on the signage project to be completed by the end of 2010. Also, to insure that no further Town funding is needed, Pam agreed to fund-raise the additional \$1,500 to make this \$4,500 "whole", raising the total of funds to the Skatespot to \$18,028 (\$3,000 Middletown POS + \$1,000 from fundraising already accomplished + \$6,021 Myersville POS + \$2,007 new funds to be raised + \$4,500 reallocated POS signage funds to the Skatespot + \$1,500 new funds to be raised by Pam).

In summary, the Committee voted unanimously (1) for Tony to ask the Town Board that, once Pam presents evidence of available funds to the Town from her fundraising for the \$1,000 (to match the Middletown POS \$3,000) and for the \$2,007 (to match the Myersville POS \$6,021), the Town Board votes to approve designating the total (\$12,028) as available for the County Parks & Recreation Department to initiate the design phase for the Skatespot; and (2) for Tony to ask the Town Board for approval to reallocate the signage POS funding of \$4,500 to the Skatespot project. The Committee feels that more money designated for the Skatespot would further indicate the Town's support and backing of the project and serve to enhance fund-raising project.

Lastly, on this same subject, for any POS funding in 2010, the Committee voted unanimously for Tony to ask the Town to list two equal priorities for 2010 POS requests: 50% of any 2010 new funds for the Skatespot and the other 50% for new trails in Wiles Branch or Remsberg.

2. Letters of Appreciation. Tony indicated that his project is on his radar screen.

3. Promote Activities and More Recreational Use at Wiles Branch Park. In her planned outreach meetings with Boy, Girl and Cub Scout groups, Joan will encourage use of Wiles Branch by the scouts for possible overnight camp-outs (to be coordinated with

Drew); and also to request possible safe design for a cook-out/fire-pit area and for rustic benches around the fire-pit. The Committee also reaffirmed a request that the Burgess r continue to "broadcast" in his quarterly letter the availability of Wiles Branch Park for scout camp-outs.

4. Rules and regs for the Community Vegetable Garden/Pizza Garden (CVG/PG) at Wiles Branch. Pam indicated that the rules and regs are nearly completed and will be sent to the Committee members for review and comment. Pam will develop a "final" draft for presentation to the Committee at the next meeting. Once the Committee approves the rules/regs, the Committee will pass it on to the Town Board for vote and possible adoption. Once the Town Board approves the rules/regs for the Garden, Pam expressed the hope that the sign-up protocol for the garden might be announced in January.

5. Town map of Middletown Trails. The Committee understands that Lewis discussed use of different highlight colors with Town staff to differentiate sidewalks that are part of the Town-trail-network. The Committee asks Tony to request the Town staff if new trail maps might be available at the January Committee meeting, utilizing the same oversized Town map featuring the existing, planned, and proposed trails, each color-coded. We had previously asked to color-code the sidewalks (i.e. the Glenbrook Parkway sidewalk that have been nominally noted as part of the proposed Town circumferential trail network) a different color. The Committee also unanimously agreed with Drew that the Town Trail near the ACJets property should go along the Hollow Creek as opposed to going along the Parkway easement through the AC Jets property. This part of the Middletown trail network would connect up with the Foxfield Trail on the East and with the possible sidewalk on Route 40A on the West side, when and if the ACJets property is developed. Lewis will coordinate this item with Drew.

6. Log bench design for benches in Memorial Park. Pam will try and have for the January meeting.

7. New Senior Recreational Survey. Joan will try and come up with a simple template for the Senior survey in January.

8. Wiles Branch Enhancement -- Prioritize Projects. The Committee did not act on this item.

9. Grant Ideas to Support Building the Primary School Walkway. The Committee asks Lewis to confer with Drew for possible ideas.

Proposed agenda items for January meeting:

- (1) Log bench design in Memorial Park-Pam;
- (2) Proposed additional benches in Middletown-all;
- (3) New draft of garden rules/regs-Pam;
- (4) Senior survey template and possible questions-Joan;
- (5) Prioritizing Committee ideas for Wiles Branch Park enhancement-all;
- (6) Understanding of Town Board position on Committee recommendations on funding for the Skatespot (total designation of POS funds; initiating discussions with the County on beginning the design phase; and reallocation of Wiles Branch trail marker signage POS funds to the Skatespot.- Tony;
- (7) Skatespot Fund Raising Report-Pam;
- (8) Pam and Lewis Letters of Appreciation-Tony;

(9) New Trail map - Lewis;

(10) Feedback on Committee Recommendations from the Town Board for 2010 POS funding-Tony;

(11) Possible Grant ideas for Primary School Walking Trail-Lewis.

Jerry Ziemba

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