

West Amwell Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting

Aug 10, 2015

Attendance: Joe Petrucci, Sam Jefferis, Heidi Tomenchok, Porter Little, Mike Rampel, Zach Rich (Township Comm liaison)

Members absent: Karen Atwood, Brian Tumler

No meetings held during June and July 2015.

Current Activities

Soccer Field planning

Zach Rich presented three potential drawings of soccer fields and other active recreation; the drawings were completed by Mazur.

Option 1

Hewitt Park; cost would be \$100-125,000; a full soccer field and a ½ size field could be constructed

Option 2

Municipal Building; cost would be \$125-150,000; location would be between the Municipal Building and the woods that separate the Municipal property and the South Hunterdon practice fields.

Option 3

Music Mountain Development; open area in the center of the development; cost would be \$250,000 and would be one full size soccer field.

The Parks and Rec committee members in attendance felt that option 2, the location at the Municipal Township property was the best option. Zach has been working with JCP&L and of the \$110,000 available, which represents 1000 trees that were removed during the substation work, \$60,000 would be used to complete remediation at the Rocktown Lambertville Rd substation; this would be replacement of trees and site work.

The remaining \$50,000 is being put toward a soccer field. Discussion was held about a potential joint agreement with South County Soccer League (SCSL) who is interested in additional playing space; South Hunterdon is also looking for soccer fields. Logistics related to a partnership between SHR, SCSL and the Parks and Rec Committee was thought to be too cumbersome. The location of the proposed area is adjacent to the SHR cross country track and a path could be built to allow access directly from the school property; this would allow use of the space without having to bus students.

The best option to move forward was decided to be a proposal to SHR for a 10 year partnership between the school district and the township; the school district would be responsible to maintain the field and decide on the use of the field (soccer, field hockey, etc). If the SHR district decided to lease space to SCSL, that would be between those two entities and SHR would handle all logistics. This proposal will be presented to the SHR Building and Grounds Committee on Aug 18 at their 5:30 pm meeting; Zach Rich will present the proposal on behalf of the Township and Parks and Rec Committee. JCP&L would like to close out their overall project by Sept 2015; proposed construction of the soccer field could begin in September.

The general plan of using a portion of the JCP&L money for a soccer field was discussed with both Open Space and the Environmental Committees and they were both in agreement.

The next meeting scheduled is Monday, September 14 at 7:15 pm at the West Amwell Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Tomenchok