

Minutes of the Meeting of March 11, 2014

Warren County Board of Recreation Commissioners

500 Mt. Pisgah Avenue
Oxford, New Jersey 07863

Members Present:	Michael Helbing William Hann David Detrick	Raymond Tobaygo John Halmi
Members Absent:	Matthew Davis	Charles Fineran
Staff:	Corey Tierney and Sue Beall	

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Warren County Board of Recreation Commissioners was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Helbing. This meeting was held at the office of the Department of Land Preservation, 500 Mt. Pisgah Avenue, Oxford, New Jersey.

The Introductory Statement and roll call were read into the record. Chairman Helbing then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the meeting of February 11, 2014, were approved on a motion by Mr. Detrick second by Mr. Tobaygo after some discussion on the interpretation of a statement made at the meeting. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None this evening.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

♦ Morris Canal Committee – Mr. Detrick advised that the date for the spring bus tour has been changed to May 3 due to work being planned at Plane 9 West. The Committee has been spending time on discussions regarding social media and publicity and how it will affect the usage of the resources available. On May 27, several members of the Committee will be attending a canal conference in Morristown sponsored by the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority. Some significant changes will be occurring at the museum at Bread Lock in the coming months. There is nothing new to report tonight regarding the pool on the Freise property. The latest recommendation is to fill in the pool to a depth of about three feet, with concrete sides and the center filled in with grass. This plan would require no fencing and still allow the pool to be viewed as it was originally created.

♦ Trails – Mr. Helbing worked at Marble Hill clearing some trails of new growth and cutting back to clear the area. A meeting with the owner of the property that borders Belvidere Road has not yet taken place, however the man in charge of signs for the State Parks has begun putting up signs just above that area.

PUBLIC AWARENESS: On March 22 Mr. Helbing will lead a Warren Railroad Hike with two starting sites: Oxford and Port Colden. An annual party is held, usually at his home, this year the Washington Theater has been rented for the event.

OLD BUSINESS:

♦ Acquisition and Status of Projects – Mann is under contract. There has been no response to the second offer on Wolf because they feel that the property is worth much more than has been offered. Green Acres has authorized the appraisal of the open space portion of the O’Dowd property and the SADC has given permission to appraise two of the three portions of property to be preserved as farmland. Route 57 Partners was scheduled to close on Friday and according to the survey, the billboard is not on the property that is being purchased. A meeting is scheduled for the end of the month with Mr. and Mrs. Crouse. The Santos are only interested in selling a small portion because they are moving within the next year or so. It may be better to wait and deal with a new owner. Wu (formerly Diesel on Brass Castle Road) did give permission to proceed with an appraisal. Mr. Tobaygo made a motion, seconded by Mr. Detrick, to direct Mr. Tierney to proceed with the appraisal on the Wu property. Motion carried. Mr. Tierney called and left a message for Mr. Handlos today. There is nothing new on Read. Mr. Lavery has sent a letter to determine who is the administrator on the Pool property. The offer made to Independent Land Holdings was deemed not sufficient by them, however the County is holding firm. A PSA has been ordered on the Jonestown property and a CMV is pending from GA. Terhunes have authorized Mr. Tierney to conduct appraisals. Mr. Hann, seconded by Mr. Halmi, made a motion to proceed with the appraisals on Terhune. Motion carried.

Mr. Tierney and Mr. Dech met with Chris Hellwig on Monday, March 10. Their conclusion: the State is moving forward with their own legislation, so any action on the part of the County would be unnecessary. The Health Department wants to promote all of the information regarding open space opportunities within the County and healthy living in general. There are numerous areas to be utilized for promoting this information. There will be ongoing discussions for the promotion of various trails and hikes.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Nothing this evening

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Hann made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Tobaygo. Chairman Helbing adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Submitted by,

Susan W. Beall