

Trails Advisory Committee
October 11, 2023

Roll Call

- Vanessa Jones, Chair
- Anne-Marie Orlusky, Vice-Chair
- James Kuligowski
- Christopher J. Gonda
- Tara Kenyon, AICP/PP

Motion to approve September Minutes (JK), Second (AO).

Public Comment

Charles and Diane Martin are pleased to support the TAC meeting in-person.

Question to Public regarding the Van Wickle House Trails and the Meadows Foundation.

- Maintenance was performed in the region that borders wetlands
 - An eagle scout project included signs with plexiglass covers.
- The Meadows Foundation hosted “Journey Through the Past” events at the Wycoff House and other historical sites.
- Discussion included lease agreements between local farmers and the differences between state leases and township lease agreements.

Motion to Close Public Comment - AM / Second JK

Pathways & Trails Plan

Review of new GIS Maps

- Tara will relay comments to A.T. to update the maps.
- Thematic Feedback
 - Parking areas to be indicated
 - Add Canal Towpath Access points
- JFK map to include “approved uses,” table and investigate accessible designation based on grade.
- Memorial Forest
 - The farming lease may be amended in 2025 to accommodate the parking and trail amenities at the site.

Motion to close Pathways & Trails Discussion - VJ / Second JK

Site Plan Review

No sites for review.

New Business

- Grant for Green Infrastructure and Trail Development at Naaman Williams Park

- Tara delivered a presentation to review of the findings from the assessment on September 19th.
- Tara will consult with Dr. Obropta of Rutgers University during a site visit on October 25, 2023. Dr. Obropta has a background in green infrastructure and will offer design recommendations for the site.
- During the committee's prior meetings and activities in the park, feedback from park path users agree with the current assessments and overall concepts to improve drainage.
 - Additional requests were to clear snow from the path after winter storms, as ice is likely to form where the water collects, and access to other safe spaces for physical activity are limited.
- Tara will prepare for public engagement sessions for November & December.

The township has a grant through the Environmental Commission for a micromobility study and plan, based on the health assessment. The study would identify whether an e-micromobility mode can be support trips to nearby transit hubs via trails where bicycles are permitted.

Vacancies

- Status update Secretary vacancy - CG to record meeting minutes.
- Mark Fortin chose to retire from his position on the TAC
- Two vacancies are available.

Old Business

Bird Blind

- The budget for the Bird Blind will be presented in February.
 - Quality materials, i.e. Trex may be considered.
- Trail Walks & Events
 - To be coordinated with Vanessa for Parks & Rec to Promote.
- Trail Updates
 - VJ - Updates to Catalpa Farms & Bunker Hill Trails.
 - CJ - John Clyde question about maintenance/mowing practices, and orange tape around trees (orange trail).
 - Van Wickle Planting Event
 - Memorial Forest: VJ - more trail markers are needed.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn, AM, seconded by JK.