

**MINUTES  
NORTH LEBANON TOWNSHIP  
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD  
February 7, 2006**

The meeting of the North Lebanon Township Parks & Recreation Board was called to order at 7:00 PM at the North Lebanon Township Municipal Building located at 725 Kimmerlings Road, North Lebanon Township.

The following members were present:

Heather Pederson	Member
Constance Snavely	Member
Sheila Wartluft	Asst. Manager

There were four township residents; Ken Artz, Township Supervisor; and two representatives from Rettew Associates, Inc. in attendance.

Sheila introduced Tim Staub, a community planner with a background in park planning from Rettew Associates. Because there is no quorum, this would be an informal meeting to go over the comprehensive plan.

Mr. Staub stated that the overall goal for the evening was to get a hands on of who the committee is, what the process is going to be, and what our expectations will be from Rettew's standpoint and from the committee's standpoint. He introduced Lauren Zumbrum who will be working with him on this project. He stated Sue Landis will also be working on this project.

Mr. Staub asked that everyone introduce themselves. Sheila stated this is the first comprehensive plan since Lion's Lake Park was developed, and she stated that we are getting a fifty percent grant package. She stated the Board decided to use Rettew for this process. Heather Pederson, Constance Snavely, Charles Allwein, Skip Hetrick, Gerry Weise, Corey Hetrick, and Ken Artz introduced themselves and stated where they resided and their interest in the project.

Mr. Staub stated he is proposing an eight month schedule of workshops for the comprehensive plan. He stated as part of the process there will be public input and there may be decisions that are required to be made by the Board. During the adoption process they will have a second opportunity as a citizen to voice their concerns. We are going to be working on two separate projects—the park and recreation open space plan and also the development of the Moyer tract. The Township was able to get grant funding from the Department of Natural Resources.

First, he stated he will talk about the park recreation open space plan with the first step being to go out and inventory what is there. He stated the second step is to find out how we measure up to National Recreation Park Association standards, the community specifically within the school district, and also look at Lebanon County. The focus is to identify special events, leagues, and anything which relates to a program. Open space environmental which is now called green infrastructure planning consists of anything open space and green with trails and linkages and serves two purposes, one for humans and also for animal migratory patterns. We will take the GIS information from the County to identify the open spaces and which places we might like to purchase or rezone. Associated with the green infrastructure as well as looking at trails and sidewalks the committee will be looking at how residents are getting to existing recreation facilities.

Mr. Staub stated they will be looking at who is sponsoring the groups, what types of fees, what is the target age group. We want to know if there are any programs being run that are obsolete or insufficient and if there enough fields for baseball, soccer, lacrosse, etc. Administrative staffing and maintenance will be looked at to see if it is sufficient. Another issue will be financing, fundraising, and promotion of which there are many creative ways to raise money for projects and inform residents of what is available to them.

He stated that next step is the vision for the future of where the community wants to be in the next ten years. Rettew will take into consideration the feedback from the community of what they would like. He said one of the vehicles the committee will use is the Public Recreation and Open Space Survey which will be the first assignment to design a draft by the next meeting so that the survey can be mailed as quickly as possible. After identifying where we are, how we compare to adjacent municipalities in the county, and where residents would like to go from here, we then identify the path to get to that point within the next ten years. The plan should be reviewed every year. Rettew will be presenting two formats – a sketch plan and then the final master plan. A suggestion was made to possibly work with the schools to get the children and their parents to get involved in naming the Moyer tract and also complete the survey.

Mr. Staub explained the other packet is demographic information for the Township. He explained how the demographics impact what would influence the plan and the committee should look at this in the coming months.

Question was asked about how much grant money was available to which Sheila replied the grant money they have now is to just prepare the plan. She further explained that every process is a new grant. Discussion regarding nature trails and the prospect of a nature trail at the Moyer property and other options which may be available followed. The option of a skate park was mentioned plus other possibilities.

**Old Business**

Sheila stated that because there weren't enough members present for quorum it was not possible to reorganize the Board.

She stated they had applied for some grant money from DCED for a handicapped accessible walking trail in the lower area of Eighth Avenue so that people could walk to see the different fields. We are to be receiving \$10,000 to complete as much as possible with the money we will be getting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Bertin  
Recording Secretary