

Middlesex Greenway:

Angela Dohl discussed her involvement with the Perth Amboy waterfront (Arthur Kill) on a project and how she took the opportunity to discuss the agenda of the Bikeway from Raritan Center to Perth Amboy with Government officials involved with her project. There have been homeless on that property in tents.

As a separate issue, it was noted that the Armory in Perth Amboy would be closed through Memorial Day due to Storm Sandy damage.

Brian Weeks discussed taking a Scout group to the Greenway, AS WELL AS the Env. Comm. Water Trail clearing adventure. An impressive half mile past the embankment has now been cleared by the group.

Trailhead Park:

We revisited the idea of a Design competition for the Park. Mark brought up Jim Constantine's concerns about the idea, he felt that:

- A budget would be required
- We would need to offer a prize
- Leg work would have to be done in advance
- Control would be lost of the process

Joe Schaeffer countered with his knowledge of a different kind of process. The example of the Community Design Collaborative was used. This was a project in the Philadelphia area regarding Stormwater. The goals of the competition were more publicity for the project, and "academic", and there was a strong response. The consensus seemed to indicate further discussion warranted. The issue of asbestos that was left in place over the pipes underground was noted. This area is marked with an deed restriction, though 80-90% of the property should be diggable (plantable, etc.)

Beth agreed to contact Nick Tufaro with Middlesex County regarding any County plans for the Park. Mark pointed out that Rick Lear is another contact, will get contact info.

Storm Sandy:

Metuchen Public works did not "miss a beat", when it came to recycling and debris pickup.

Centennial Parks was cleared quickly by DPW as well.

Edgar Woods:

A walk through date of December 15th was determined. A report on this will be forthcoming at the next meeting.

Hillside Cemetery

The tree replacement issue was discussed. (Trees were taken down as part of the adjacent soccer field construction.) Where to plant is still undetermined. The water line is a concern.

Mark agreed to get an update from Bill Boerth.

Stormwater Ordinances

Dan said he would get an update from Kathy Elliot. Beth and Joe agreed to try and get some model ordinances from similar municipalities.

BIKE/WALK Metuchen

This is a grass roots effort (advocacy group) to make Metuchen more walkable. A report on this will be forthcoming at the next meeting.

Metuchen High School

The High School is requesting an additional tree.

Shade Tree Commission

Dorothy related the controversy that has come up (post Sandy) regarding tree planting.

It has been recommended that all further planting be on lawns, and none in the area of overhead utilities. To be continued.

The meeting adjourned about 9:15PM

Respectively Submitted,

Beth Strom