

December 8, 2016
Thursday, 10:00 a.m.

MINUTES

Chairman Robert H. Rohner, Jr. called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Also present were Richard C. Vollmer, Vice Chairman, John P. Sivick, Supervisor, MaryAnn Conza, Assistant Secretary and William Collins, Simone-Collins Landscape Architects.

BUSHKILL VILLAGE APPLICATION PLAN / FLAP (FEDERAL LANDS ACCESS PROGRAM) GRANT APPLICATION:

Mr. Collins distributed paperwork (part of these minutes on file) discussing funding opportunities for the Bushkill Village Improvements by approaching agencies for money. Money to match the FLAP or money to do the pavilion. John Donahue likes the FLAP because it has to do with transportation improvements. April Hannon, Rep from PennDOT stated that the grant is selected at Central Office and not District Office. We should contact the State Reps, State Senators and County Commissioners informing them that we are submitting this in partnership and ask them to contact Central office stating that they are behind this.

The grant is from a pool of Federal money being proportioned out by the State, depending on how much Federal land is in your State. FLAP is granted over a period of 4 or 5 years. The applications go in and you ask for what you think you can get. It all depends on how they rank us.

John Donahue wanted to do a study on remote parking and it was his idea to look at Fernwood , Monroe County. If we go for LSA money it could be a good thing. This remote parking and the McDade Trail Bridge is a joint County/Township project that has merit. Christine Dettore is the Regional Advisor at DCNR and we will set up a date to meet with her since the DCNR application is due in April. The main elements of the grant are planning for remote parking and shuttle transportation, shuttle in the village plan for the trail bridge, planning for the streetscape, walkways and signalization. FLAP has to be all transportation related. The pavilion will be under another funding.

The enhancements funding is Federal funding coming through PennDOT just like the FLAP, but the FLAP has to be associated with Federal lands. Enhancements can be associated with Municipalities or County. There are two multimodal transportation funds that we are eligible for, one from PennDOT and one from DCED. We will miss this one because it is due this month. The next one is the DCNR-Community Conservation Partnership Program (C2P2) due mid-April 2017. A standard once a year application, 25% match and if we went to just DNCR for the matching funds, it would be about \$66,000 or \$67,000. We may be able to negotiate with Christine Dettore concerning their percentage.

The next application due is for parks in general. The DCED grant for Greenways, Trails and Recreation (GTRP) gives up to \$250,000 and requires 15% match and it could match the DCNR money. One is due in April and one in June. Where do we want to get the match?

We need to confirm the date of Monday, December 19th after 11:00 a.m. to meet with DCNR, Christine Dettore.

PA Environmental Council- 2016 Pocono Forest & Waters Conservation Landscape Conservation Assistance Grant has given small amounts of money up to \$40,000, which is funded by DCNR. Janet Sweeney runs it.

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A copy of the Maintenance Agreement was given to the Park but we have heard nothing. Bill will reach out to John Donahue about the status and set up a meeting around February. We should print a copy of the final and submit it to them for their two reports.

A letter was submitted to John Donahue from the Township asking that Bushkill be considered for the Visitor's Center. There is a public use process the park is going through and we should draft another letter asking them to officially include this and include a copy of the sight study.

The Park's meeting house is not adequate for a Visitor's Center for various reasons. Bill suggested that the best sight for the Center would be the Peters House block, being out of the flood plain, can support its own septic, its own parking and has the turn lane onto Bushkill Falls Road.

We should contact Joy Oakes and John Beljean of the Delaware Water Gap Chapter of the National Parks Conservation Association, who will be good allies.

Bushkill Village qualifies as a cultural landscape program.

We need the control agreement (i.e. leasing or easement for \$1) added into the maintenance agreement, as well as the Township's cost to plow and mow around the Peters House, the area by the outhouse and trash pickup.

The Supervisors will reach out to our Representatives asking them to be on board.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Rohner and second by Mr. Vollmer at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

MaryAnn Conza
Assistant Secretary