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**Meeting Minutes: Central/Buchmiller/Sunnyside Parks
 Master Plans
 Study Committee Meeting #9**

Date: July 16, 2007
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Shuts Environmental Center - Central Park
By: Chuck Strodoski
Project No.: 06LAN-01

Persons Attending: James Hackett, Director, Lancaster County Parks and Recreation
 Mike Domin, Lancaster County Planning Commission
 Tim Draude, Muhlenberg Botanical Society
 Nevin Greiner, Lancaster County Conservation District
 Courtney Barry, Resident
 Ted Shaffer, YSM
 Chuck Strodoski, YSM

Purpose of the Meeting: To review the outcomes of the public meeting, present the construction cost opinions, and discuss operations and management.

Of Record:

1. C. Strodoski provided a brief summary of the public meeting. Key concerns raised included:
 - Safety and traffic calming along Golf Road.
 - Restroom facilities and comfort stations
 - Loss of basketball courts at Central Park.
 - Loss of tennis courts at Buchmiller Park.
 - Loss of the special event area at Central Park.
2. Discussion of the public meeting review and pre-final plan included the following:

Central Park

- A basketball court was suggested in the northern peninsula area.
- The southern most portion of the landfill area was viewed as a special event area. The balance should be established as a natural area. The special event area should be reduced in size to accommodate approximately 200 cars, in addition to the event area. The event area should include a small stage. Potential funding opportunities associated with the landfill re-development should be investigated.
- The pavilions proposed in the floodplain shall be removed from the master plan.

- J. Hackett noted the ropes course will be re-sighted due to the age and supporting landscape.
- The destination playground was discussed. The location was seen as remote and in a passive part of the park. A suggestion was made to relocate to the ballfield area, the northern peninsula, or near the active areas of the park. C. Barry noted it as a good location for the playground as it is a destination within the park. The playground could have a natural theme to tie to the park and fit the natural setting. YSM will consider the location and provide more detail on the playground and its vision.
- The ownership of the Rockford Plantation was noted. Rockford owns to the river and any improvements must be coordinated with and accepted by Rockford.

Buchmiller Park

- T. Draude expressed concern over the proposed pedestrian tunnel beneath Route 222. Draude questioned who would use it, safety concerns associated with the tunnel, and costs to construct against the need for other park priorities. M. Domain expressed the need to show the potential connection although it would be low in priority.
- The committee expressed the desire to divide the existing tennis courts into three basketball and three tennis courts. YSM expressed concerns in compatibility, however, tennis is a well used facility at Buchmiller and basketball would be a nice compliment to the park, as an active feature.
- The large pavilion proposed at the ballfield should be enclosed and capable of accommodating 150 people.

General

- A signage plan for the parks should include simple, patron friendly orientation signs. An entrance sign at Central Park should be state of the art and include an area for changeable messages to direct vehicles to event/rental areas. This will reduce or eliminate the use of balloons and makeshift signs by park users.
3. C. Strodoski presented the draft probable construction cost opinions for the parks, based on the Pre-Final Plan presented to the public. Itemized costs were distributed to the group.
 4. T. Shaffer provided an overview of the Operations and Management portion of the master plan. The operations and management will address operations, programs and services management, human resources, facility and land use, safety and security, risk management, and cost analysis. Discussions on the presentation include:
 - Typically, seventy-five percent of the long term costs of a park are in maintenance.
 - The county has identified over \$4,000,000 in backlog for outstanding maintenance projects.
 - N. Greiner notes that a happy workforce is the key to success. How do we keep the workers happy? Quantifying workers may cause worker concern and resentment. Consider rewards for good work.
 - M. Domain requested incorporation of gift, donation and fundraising ideas. Funding park projects is very important. An aggressive marketing plan should be established to help meet the plans goals. The Lancaster County Conservancy was noted as a good example.
 5. C. Strodoski concluded the meeting by outlining the next steps in the planning process. The next regularly scheduled study committee meeting will be held on Monday, August 27, 2007 at 7:00 pm. This meeting will focus on operations and management.

Provide changes or corrections to these meeting minutes to C. Strodoski at YSM within one week of receipt.