

Mt. Penn Preserve Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday, January 17, 2017

Penn Room, City Hall

3:30 pm

Attending: K. Barnhardt (County), L. Olsen (Pagoda Foundation), J. Waltman (City), P. Kline (Alsace), M. Dudash (Mt. Penn), C. Crupi (Lower Alsace & Pagoda Skyline), L. Kelleher (City and CHCC), S. Rossman (County Planning), W. Stefanik (RBAR), M. Reinert (WFMZ, Pagoda Skyline & Pagoda Foundation), P. Simone (Simone Collins consultant), D. Kelly (Reading Eagle)

Mr. Olsen called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

After introductions, Mr. Simone explained the schedule to gather broad input from the Steering Committee (those who attended the work shop at Stokesay in May 2016), the Executive Committee and the public. Mr. Olsen stated that approximately 100 attended the May work shop.

Mr. Simone explained that the input, which will include the results from an online survey, will be used to compose the Mt. Penn Preserve Master Plan which is intended to enhance the use of this recreational resource. Mr. Barnhardt added his hope that a multi-municipal recreation district could be formed to coordinate activities and events on Mt. Penn.

Mr. Waltman suggested that the group also consider a naming contest so the group can reconsider the use of "The Mt. Penn Preserve". Mr. Barnhardt and Ms. Crupi explained that the name was derived from old planning documents. The existing signage at several locations was also noted.

Mr. Simone stated that the meeting schedule is as follows:

1. Friday, February 24th from 9 am to 4 pm in Council Chambers – Steering Committee – 9-12 tour & 1-4 programming and brainstorming
2. Saturday, February 25th from 10 am to 4 pm in Council Chambers – Public Meeting

3. Thursday, March 9th from 4-6 pm and 7-9 pm at the Liederkrantz – Public Meetings – present concepts identified and obtain feedback
4. Saturday, March 25th from 10 am – 4 pm in Council Chambers– Public Meeting – present concepts identified and obtain feedback
5. Monday, April 10th from 12 – 4 pm in Council Chambers – Steering Committee – review draft plan and suggest revisions
6. Thursday, April 20th from 7 – 9 pm at Stokesay – Public Meeting – presentation of final master plan and discuss implementation and funding

Everyone was asked to list their social media availability and to send media contacts to Mr. Simone and Mr. Barnhardt. Mr. Stefanik will be the lead for Facebook posts. Mr. Barnhardt will email notices, schedules, etc. to the Steering Committee.

Ms. Kelleher was asked to reserve Council Chambers for the appropriate meeting dates, inquire about meter enforcement and parking garage access and speak with the Police about adjusting the locking system for the City Hall entry doors located on North 8th Street and Washington Street.

The group discussed ways to improve access to activities on Mt. Penn. The addition of a shuttle bus was discussed. Mr. Barnhardt stated that before BARTA considers offering this service, the service would need to be offered to private busing companies or BARTA's federal funding would be jeopardized.

The meeting concluded at 4:50pm. The Executive Committee will hold another planning session on Wednesday, February 15th at 3:30 in Council Chambers, City Hall.

Respectfully submitted by Linda A. Kelleher CMC, City Clerk