

Granville Township Land Management Committee
Tuesday, January 26, 2010 meeting minutes

Attending: Greg Dixon, Rob Schaadt, Judy Preston, Grace Gordon, Laura Mickelson, Roger Dunifon and Mickey Smith.

Guest: Andy McCall

Meeting Minutes: Minutes of the December, 2009 meeting had been approved by e-mail and forwarded to trustees and Land Trust personnel.

Invasive Species Issue: Andy McCall offered valuable information regarding this issue for township lands. A brochure had been prepared by ODNR which named 10 of the most problematic species for Ohio. He suggested we concentrate our efforts on one or two more prevalent plants using hand-removal as well as herbicide treatment. He emphasized that treatments for some species will need to be continued over an 8 year period for a truly successful effort. Dr. McCall will contact Whitney Stocker of Denison to see if he would be willing to help us attack this problem. The newly acquired Gordon section of the Spring Valley Preserve will be the primary focus of this effort this year.

Public Relations: Judy reported that minutes of the committee meetings have been posted to the web site.

Parks and Trails: Rob presented a PowerPoint presentation given us by Mary Fitch of the Land Trust. This was the same presentation which was presented at the 12/28/09 trustee meeting. It deals with their efforts to obtain a state grant that would allow for the removal of the low head dams, concrete wall and shed at the Nature Preserve. They believe this would allow the creek to have a more natural flow. The grant application will be submitted by the middle of February.

Grace and Greg reviewed a plot map which shows where a proposed trail would run through the Gordon section of the Nature Preserve. The goal is to connect a trail on this new section with the current running trails of Spring Valley and Salt Run areas. Greg recommended the rest of the committee walk the area before deciding on the actual new trail.

The committee had been notified by trustee Abraham that a Roseview resident had complained of encroachment by the committee members reviewing the parcel for the new trail. We will ensure the community that property lines will be identified and respected when doing any work in the area and will verify that the trail is away from any property lines.

Agriculture: no discussion

Development Rights: Rob was invited by Dan VanNess to attend a workshop put on by the Licking Land Trust, Soil and Water, MORPC and the Farm Bureau. This workshop dealt with the purchase of development rights by government bodies and the outright gifting of development rights. The state will have limited funds available for the purchase of such rights and offered this meeting as a means of becoming familiar with procedures for applying for any funds.

Other: Rob attended a trustee meeting on December 28, 2009 at which he learned of plans sponsored by private individuals for a proposed Southwest Granville Pathway that would connect to Spring Valley Nature Preserve. The committee discussed the proposal and its possible limitations. We will continue to follow its possible development.

Grace asked about the status of the "memorial planting" at the SVNP. Rob will contact Mary Fitch and the trustees to resolve this question so we can get an answer to an interested party.

The next meeting was set for Tuesday, March 9, 2010.

Minutes submitted by Mickey Smith