

PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

John E. Schroeder • J. Pepper Goslin • Lori L. Crossen

Monday through Thursday, closed Friday | Hours: 6:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. | Meeting: First Monday, 7:00 p.m.



Providence Township Parks/Recreation Committee Meeting July 9, 2020 7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Providence Township Parks/Recreation Committee Meeting was held in the township municipal office on Thursday, July 9, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Present were Chairman Brian Longenecker, Providence Township Supervisors John Schroeder and Lori Crossen, Township Manager Vicki Eldridge and Committee Members Greg Collins, John Walton, Chris Harnish, Roy Snyder, Bill Musser, Korleen Calkins and Frank Voynar. There were thirteen observers.

Mrs. Eldridge reported that the bid to repair trestle on the Manor Trail came in \$500,000 lower than expected. The tentative opening of the trestle is October, 2021. She also reported that Eden and Bart Townships are still working on DCNR grants.

The Chairman asked for comments from those in attendance. He encouraged those in attendance to share their ideas for the trail. The following comments were made:

- Korleen Calkins, Providence Township, questioned if there is a shared trail for horses where would it be located.
- Warren Walter, Providence Township, stated ATVs should be allowed on the trail as well if horses are allowed.
- Bill Musser, Providence Township, shared that a separate trail is an expensive proposition and asked who will maintain it. This would require an engineered plan. On some trails, horses are banned several months of the year (example. Jan. Feb. March).
- John Walton, Providence Township, is concerned about the surface of the trail.
- Lane Findley, Providence Township, is in favor of horses on the trail.
- Reed Hecker, Providence Township, is in favor of horses on the trail.
- Lexie Findley, Providence Township, is in favor of horses on the trail.
- Lillian Basom, Martic Township, stated there is no need to ride horses on the trail surface. She feels a separate trail could be made with no special surface. This trail does not need to be a very wide space and dirt could be filled over the ballast stones. Signage could be placed (Ex. Horses stay to right). Trailer parking could be figured out down the road.

- Aaron Basom, Martic Township, stated the township would not be liable in the event of an accident. Individuals homeowners insurance would cover the liability.
- Roy Snyder, Providence Township, is in favor of a separate trail for horses.
- Don Newcomer, Rapho Township, suggested making a trail on the opposite side of guide wires. He does not want to see a mulch trail. He stated bikes are going too fast on the trail.
- Frank Voynar, Providence Township, felt the trail is not the right environment for horses.
- Greg Collins, Pequea Township is in favor of a separate trail for horses. He would like to see some mountain bike trails along wider areas of the trail.
- Carol Fryberger, Providence Township is in favor of a separate trail for horses but questioned who will enforce any guidelines.
- Larry Brown, Providence Township, stated that apparently supervisors have already made up their minds. It will take time to plan a separate trail.
- Cindy Harnish, Providence Township, is against horses on the trail and also is concerned on how guidelines will be enforced.
- Tom Harnish, Providence Township, stated that horses will ruin the trail surface.
- Lori Crossen, Providence Township, shared that her mind is not made up. She feels that a separate group of equine folks should plan how a separate trail can be made.
- John Schroeder, Providence Township, stated that the supervisors need to gather more information.
- Cindy Mellor, Providence Township, shared that horse people initially advocated for the trail.
- Kelly Jones, Providence Township, shared that a separate horse trail does not have to be fancy.
- Brian Longenecker, Providence Township, stated that there must be planning and accountability. He agreed to take Lillian Basom on the trail to observe where and if a separate trail is possible. He questioned if this is possible due to the current rules and regulations.
- Vicki Eldridge, Providence Township, stated she is not in favor of horses on the trail. She asked why all the horse people from Providence Township were not in attendance if they are the ones that want to see horses on the trail.

Following discussion, Mr. Longenecker stated that the spring clean-up was cancelled due to Covid-19. He suggested a new clean-up date could be established for November.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.