

**THIRD STREET DAM AND ROADWAY CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**MONDAY      FEBRUARY 13, 2012      6:00 PM**

Present: Terry Rumsey, Linda Healy, Brett Lester, Mike Jordan, Sam Lemon, Robin Lasersohn, Paul Robinson (Council), Brian Hall (Council), Eric Stein (Council) Kent Davidson (Council), Jeff Smith (Borough Manager)

Not present: Adam Kradel

**General Business**

1. Meeting facilitated by Sam Lemon
2. Brief introduction of those in attendance
3. Review and approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes from February 6, 2012  
January 30<sup>th</sup> minutes will be re-submitted to Jeff Smith (still not on borough website?)

**Presentations**

1. Presentation by Laura Craig of American Rivers on Dam Removal

Laura Craig, of American Rivers, provided a slide presentation with an overview of dam removal and specific details related to the Third Street project. She explained the current dam is unique in its height, degree of deterioration/danger and multiple ownership. She indicated that the presence of the dam did not contribute to flood control and could possibly add to flood risk upstream and poor water quality downstream. Dam replacement would have little impact on preserving the current Boomall's Lake and without costly and repeated dredging, the lake would return to a condition similar to that following a dam replacement. In essence, the lake would shortly present as a wetlands marsh with a creek running downstream toward the park. A planned dam removal would minimize risk to the park and downstream property owners, as well as providing grass, shrubs and trees to the area. She was able to estimate the cost at under \$1 million and the entire project length (feasibility study through creek restoration) at under 18 months. Laura Craig is scheduled to speak at a future public meeting.

2. Questions and Answers by Bob Johnston, Borough Engineer

Bob Johnston began by re-iterating the unique characteristics of the Third Street project focusing first on the height and length of the current dam. This creates engineering and financial challenge for a dam replacement as well as a dam removal with bridge construction. In addition to potential sediment issues, there are hydrological and geological factors which currently remain unknown. Mr. Johnston described a potential 500 foot span, steep valley bridge as being costly with little benefit from the preliminary engineering work completed to date. He characterized the bridge alternative as "bringing us back to square one". He indicated that a bridge would certainly hold less future costs in terms of maintenance or liability and that a pedestrian/bicycle greenway, rather than automotive roadway, might offer some savings in financial cost and impact on the park. In response to questions, he acknowledged dam replacement was rare as a response to preserving a private lake which was not used for swimming, fishing or boating. He also said that, for the most part, an automotive bridge would have a 25 mph speed limit. Bob Johnston indicated that, at this time, the sediment issues did not suggest heavy metals, but standard practice would be to approach sediment removal as if it were toxic. He was unable to give an estimate on cost or project timelines.

**Council Response to Prior CAC Requests**

Discussion among CAC and borough manager/council members on requests made by CAC following February 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Information on funding streams explained by Jeff Smith during Q&A sessions.

Funding request for professional survey services currently withdrawn as survey is being further developed. Adam Kradel will clarify additional resources needed. Cost of census/survey production and mailing not known by CAC; Jeff Smith will provide estimate based on prior borough-wide mailings. Video-taping costs \$250 per event. Cost of simple illustrations of each option not known, but general consensus was professional services (including those of Borough Engineer's firm) would be significant.

Council chambers is available for public forum on March 5<sup>th</sup> and is equipped for video taping. The community center can hold more people, but availability is not known and proceedings could only be audio taped.

### **Stakeholder Identification and Outreach**

Discussion regarding the definition of stakeholders and the value of their input to provide qualitative data. Agreement that time constraints would only allow an evening of brief interviews with about two representatives from each category. Written input from organizations may also be requested. The following categories were identified with CAC members agreeing to invite people to February 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Park Users/Educators	Sam Lemon (and R.)
Country Club Members	Mike Kinsley
Adjacent Property Owners	Brett Lester (Lisa Johnson and Stuart Rose)
	Linda Healy (E.B)
Business Owners/MBA	Eric Stein
Upstream and Downstream Property Owners	(Hickory Hills Resident Association and Ed)
Non-adjacent Borough Residents	Michael Jordan, Sam Lemon

Discussion regarding questions and recording methods for capturing responses.

### **Information Sheet**

Discussion regarding content and clarity of most recent version. Agreement that an accurate description of each option is challenge for both writer and reader. Information from expert presentations may help clarify content, but format is current priority. Work to continue during week with goal of finalizing February 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **Census/Survey**

Most recent version provided by Adam Kradel with Likert scale (strongly approve though strongly disapprove) question and responses. Agreement that demographic questions, including name and address, should be added to questions on each of the four options. Not clear whether space or resources for analysis would allow more detail. Work to continue during week with goal of finalizing February 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **Upcoming Presentations**

Mike Kinsley to give overview of Media Borough Comprehensive Plan on February 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **Action Items**

**ACTION ITEM from February 6<sup>th</sup>** Discussion and agreement on request to Council, through Jeff Smith, to clarify status of PennDOT funding for Dam Removal, Stream Restoration and Automobile Bridge option.

**ACTION ITEM** Laura Craig of American Rivers will obtain estimate on lake dredging costs.

**ACTION ITEM** Discussion and agreement to ask borough finance committee, through Jeff Smith, for approval to spend approximately \$4,500 on census/survey, video taping, illustrations and additional community outreach.

**ACTION ITEM** Mike Kinsley to provide digital recording of February 27<sup>th</sup> interviews with Eric Stein to provide resources on audio to text capabilities.

**ACTION ITEM** Robin Lasersohn to draft interview questions using council provided criteria

**ACTION ITEM** Brett Lester to develop and post interview schedule template on-line

**ACTION ITEM** Mike Kinsley to work on alternative visual concept for information sheet

**ACTION ITEM** Robin Lasersohn to follow up with (volunteer) illustrator

**ACTION ITEM** Linda Healy to follow-up with Adam Kradel regarding census/survey content.

**NEXT MEETING**      **MONDAY FEBRUARY 20, 2012**      **6:00 PM**  
**FACILITATOR**      **TERRY RUMSEY**