

## November 19, 2009 Water's Edge Discussion:

### What do you like about Water's Edge Park?

- Convenient boat access (if spaces are available)
- Course maintenance in recent years has improved the course
- Basketball, volleyball and pool areas are well used
- Kids use the golf course

### What would you like to see?

- Additional boat docks
- Level certain tees that are sloped
- Encourage more volunteer work to assist with maintenance
- Better access to course
- Second volleyball court is needed for tournaments
- Parking lot size has the potential to get filled up with small events or when there are people visiting golf and sharkeys
- Surface of court is slick – 2 knee dislocations reported as a result
- Remodel the pool so it could be used for competitive swimming by community youth (pre-high school age)
- Splash pad/baby pool
- Playground area

### Parking:

- Refer to typical parking demands and size the lot according to the uses there (expansion is needed)
- Parking for golf carts
- Maneuvering is difficult
- New carts (more needed – dedicate some for seniors or those in need so they do not get turned away)
- Move putting green between 1<sup>st</sup> tee and turn that area into a viewing area – could be incorporated with sharkey's (outdoor dining?). Gazebo might be nice as well for dining, photos, after-golf beverages.
- Concentrated motorized boat traffic seems to deter non-motorized boat launching. Water may be rougher here than in other areas.
- Transient boat docks for smaller boats could make Grosse Ile more of a destination
- Tie in preserve with kayaking
- We need to find a designated location for non-motorized boat launch (not necessarily at Water's Edge)
- More transient docks might also attract more golfers, swimmers
- Boating clubs are always looking for destinations that are closer to home
- Offer swimming/golf/lunch/boat slip packages
- Shuttle to commercial center, community center, etc. - use golf carts?

Discussion of former plan concept to move stored boats during winter and boat amenities in summer from a portion of waterfront to open it up for general use

- If we are attracting more people, then we need more parking
- Kids would likely use a waterfront deck
- Aesthetic improvements - landscaping
- Winter storage brings in \$35,000
- Public access to waterfront is definitely desired, but we need to see if there are better locations – mixing of boat traffic with general public is not ideal – look for other areas
- Views from Water's Edge are not the most picturesque that G.I. shores have to offer. Viewing areas should be in locations where the view is best!

- Keep marina theme as the primary use of waterfront – improvements are needed, but marina should be the focus rather than trying to make this THE launch in Grosse Ile.
- Maybe people will want to visit the park because there is activity, keep facilities central
- Nets between 8<sup>th</sup> range and driving range needs replacement.
- Lights at driving range
- Driving range generates around \$10K - \$12K – it seems to be busy
- Current plan shows boat storage area, which could be used in the summer as parking lot.
- Golf lesson program is just starting to catch on - it is anticipated that there will take some time for people to know the facilities are open to the public
- Hydraulic chair at pool for disabled – water therapy
- High school swimming team has no pool facility – conditions at places they do use are inconsistent
- Enclose pool – add competition lap pool – could generate revenue
- Collaborate with school (and others) on pool improvements – if year-round, it could attract lots of use
- Expand hours at pool for after-work use
- Recreation staff should move back to Centennial Farm
- Let Sharkey's use that space for banquets – relieves the Twp from building overhead costs – and prevents township staff from having to clean up
- Mobile office
- Golf Course reorganization - #7 terminates behind mobile office #8 becomes #1 ... #7 becomes #9
- Course redesign – straighten #2 a little, additional bunkers
- Refer to Lakes of Taylor as a good example of how golf improvements brought in lots more traffic
- More challenging course
- Ponds need attention – losing water – growing in
- We need gardens, ponds – beautification of the course to just make it more pleasing to visit
- Investigate where new pine trees could be planted throughout the course
- New maintenance equipment – current mower is on its last leg.
- Eye catching entrance to park – larger sign with other features – incorporate a theme
- Hole sponsorship – for signs, improvements, etc.
- Golf league for boaters
- Programming is needed – golf league, tournaments, etc. – and promote the programs
- Community events calendar specific to recreation separate from general township calendar – township should reach out to community groups
- Promote Water's Edge with outside residents – can charge fees for non-resident use

### **November 19, 2009 Centennial Farm Park Discussion:**

#### **What would you like to see?**

- Expand dog park – provide area for smaller dogs – needs to be adjacent to large dog area
- Small farm animals (chickens) – petting zoo
- Most visitors do visit the barn during their visit – petting zoo could be a nice attraction
- New 4-H club
- Community Gardens - co-op style – shady spot may not be ideal
- Evaluate paddock area and need to determine whether existing paddocks are sufficient or more than needed
- Equestrian group is willing to work with Township

- About 28 horses boarded year-round
- New lease effective until June 2011
- Even though only a small percentage of residents use the park for horses, most still appreciate the pastoral setting and support the park
- Pond area needs improvement – cleanup, drainage from farm, it gets a lot of use
- Kids love the pond - skating in winter
- Grills and picnic amenities
- Consider “friends of the farm” program that brings in other philanthropic groups like the conservancy
- Fitness trail
- A lot of people already walk the perimeter – it’s pretty rough now – could use maintenance, paving, flattening, etc.
- Most don’t have fenced yards and use the dog park a lot. It gets a lot more use than what was originally thought
- Dog park: shelter,
- Consider moving dog park closer to animal shelter
- Consider reorganizing paddocks, dog park, community garden to make their locations more logical
- Paths to picnic areas
- Advertise walking trails throughout township – most don’t know where they are or how many
- Open Space Committee often objects to trail improvements
- (Boy scout involvement in) signage, history of site, building history, historic trees – interpretive trail
- Minor drainage adjustments needed
- Entrance from Meridian is important – a lot of people get disoriented on trails
- (use existing platted roads for trails)
- Trails should respect adjacent property owners – some buffer
- Nature trails should be clear of brush, fallen trees, and other large obstacles so less able can still enjoy them
- Accessibility, accessibility, accessibility (universal design for ALL residents)
- Make at least part of trail accessible to strollers
- Pond accessibility – possible temporary transport between parking and pond using golf carts
- Historic aspect of farm – work with Historic Society – the site has history, not just the buildings – signage
- Barn and root cellar (maybe) are designated historic places – land is designated a centennial farm
- Seek historic designations (hybrid apple farming, fruit trees)
- No fire protection for structures – alarm systems are needed, grant funding could help fund fire suppression if it is tied to access
- Small scale raised water storage?