THOMPSON WOODS PRESERVE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
MEETING AGENDA
Wednesday, January 10, 2024
4:00 PM
Hybrid Meeting (In-Person or via Zoom)

General Meeting Information
College Township offers both in-person and virtual meeting attendance for all public meetings. To attend in-person, this meeting will be held at 1481 E. College Avenue, State College PA, 16801, 1st Floor Conference Room. To attend virtually, please see the information below.

To Attend the LIVE Meeting Via Zoom on Computer or Smart Phone:
- Click HERE to REGISTER for the meeting via Zoom. Once registered, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

To Attend the LIVE Meeting Via Phone:
- Dial +1 646 558 8656 ● Meeting ID: 843 5416 6049 ● Passcode: 543211
  * Click here for detailed instructions on how to participate via zoom.

VIRTUAL PUBLIC COMMENTS: Please use the raised hand feature to participate. The moderator will recognize those with their hands raised (either by name or phone number).

WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENTS: For specific agenda items and for items not on the agenda, written public comments may be submitted until 12:00 noon the day of the meeting by emailing mbloom@collegetownship.org.

THOMPSON WOODS PRESERVE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

CALL TO ORDER:

OPEN DISCUSSION: For any item not on this agenda, please:
- Limit comments to five minutes
- Provide the who, what, where and why
- Ask to add your topic to this or a future agenda, if needed

CONSENT AGENDA: CA-1 December 18, 2023 Meeting Minutes

NEW BUSINESS: None

OLD BUSINESS: OB-1 Review of revised Stakeholder Survey
- Finalize questions & distribution plan

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, February 14, 2023 at 4:00 PM (Reorganization)

ADJOURNMENT:
THOMPSON WOODS PRESERVE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, December 13, 2023
4:00 PM
1481 E. College Avenue, State College PA 16801
2nd Floor Meeting Room

ATTENDED BY:
Bill Keough, Chair
Earl Moore, Vice Chair
Eric Silver
William Ray
Charles Fisher

STAFF:
Jasmine Fields, State College Borough
Mike Bloom, College Township

PUBLIC:
Ryan Reynolds
Mark Pacey

CALL TO ORDER:
Mr. Keough called to order the December 13, 2023, Regular Meeting of the Thompson Woods Preserve – Governance Committee at 4:04 PM.

PUBLIC OPEN DISCUSSION:
Mr. Reynolds asked why biking was so limited in the Preserve. Members of the Committee noted that this limitation was due to the covenants in the deed, which restricts biking to one path.

Mr. Pacey noted that he was in attendance as an interested resident, and was concerned over the prospect of high density housing developing at the site. The Committee noted that the covenants also preclude that possibility.

Mr. Moore noted that the path near the bridge at Your Building Center needs maintenance attention. Mr. Bloom will share the concern with College Township Public Works and Centre Region Parks and Recreation.

CONSENT AGENDA:
Mr. Ray made a motion to accept the November 8th meeting minutes, Mr. Moore seconded. Approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS: OB-1 Survey of Borough and Township elected & appointed officials
The Committee reviewed the latest update to the survey. The Committee felt the survey was nearly ready, but offered suggestions on minor wording revisions to Questions 3, 4 and 7. In
addition, Mr. Ray noted that a rating scale for Question #5 may provide for more complete feedback in terms of priorities.

Mr. Bloom noted the revisions and will bring back a revised survey in January. He also intends to incorporate the survey into the GIS based application as well.

The Committee felt electronic distribution of the survey would be best and that the Committee should try to control the distribution points as much as possible.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Keough noted that Ferguson Township did not reappoint him to the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority for 2024. As such, he would likely be leaving the Committee upon reorganization.

Mr. Bloom thanked Mr. Keough for his dedication and leadership during the first year of the new Thompson Woods Preserve Governance Structure. He noted that he would be in touch with the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority Chair Kathy Matason and Centre Region Parks and Recreation Director Kristy Owens about that appointment.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Keough accepted a motion from Mr. Ray to adjourn the December 13, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Thompson Woods Preserve – Governance Committee, which was seconded by Mr. Fisher. The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 PM.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Mike Bloom
College Township Assistant Manager
QUESTION #1:

Please select the description describes your affiliation (check all that apply):

- Elected Official – Borough/Township
- Municipal ABC Member – Borough/Township
- Municipal Staff – Borough/Township
- Thompson Woods Preserve Governance Committee Member – Borough/Township/Other
- Thompson Woods Preserve Advisory Committee Member – Borough/Township/Other

QUESTION #2:

In your opinion, which of the following audiences should the Thompson Woods Preserve primarily serve?

- Regional (serving all of the Centre Region)
- Municipal (serving primarily the residents of College Township and State College Borough)
- Neighborhood (servings those residing with close proximity to the Preserve)

QUESTION #3:

By its nature as a preserve and the covenants associated with the property, Thompson Woods Preserve is limited to passive outdoor recreation activities such as:

- Education/study/interpretation of the natural features within the Preserve
- Nature Tourism
- Walking/Hiking
- Wildlife/Bird Watching
- Biking (where allowed under covenants)

Over the next 3 years, how important do you believe the following potential investments would be to the Preserve?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Potential Investment</th>
<th>Very Unimportant</th>
<th>Unimportant</th>
<th>Neutral</th>
<th>Important</th>
<th>Very Important</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improved litter management</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installation of new entrance signage</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved/expanded parking area</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installation of wayfinding/orientation signage within the Preserve</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installation of interpretive signage within the Preserve</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved maintenance of existing trails</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better management of invasive vegetation and/or insects</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Removal of dead/dying trees</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expanded enforcement of property covenants</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
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The Thompson Woods Preserve Committees have identified and prioritized the following four tasks:

1) Branding/Education:
   - Consistent messaging: (What is a Preserve?, Appropriate activities in a Preserve?, etc.)
   - Development of the web presence
   - Informational gateway signage

2) Maintenance:
   - Maintaining access points
   - Litter management
   - Ensuring user safety from hazards such as worn trails, dead/dying trees, debris/litter, etc.

3) Vegetation/Forest Management:
   - Management of invasive vegetation and insects
   - Implementation of Forest Management Plan

4) Enforcement:
   - Enforcement actions pertaining to violations of the property covenants and respective municipal

A) Do you agree with these identified tasks?
   - Yes or No

   * If No, what tasks do you feel are needed and why?

B) Are there additional tasks that you feel should be included.

C) Do you agree with the priority of each identified task?
   - Yes or No

   * If No, how would you reprioritize the identified tasks?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Branding/Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vegetation/Forest Management</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Enforcement</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Other:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Other:</td>
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QUESTION #5:

Please provide any additional thoughts that you have related to the Thompson Woods Preserve:
QUESTION #7:

Which of the following statements do you feel best represents your thoughts on future funding for the Thompson Woods Preserve?

- **No changes needed.**
  - Potential annual investment from each owner up to $2,499. The Preserve serves its intended purpose and is receiving the appropriate level of investment.

- **Minor investments needed.**
  - Potential annual investment from each owner ranging from $2,500 - $4,999. Examples could include better signage, trail maintenance and litter management.

- **Moderate investments needed.**
  - Potential annual investment from each owner up to $5,000 to $9,999. Examples could include a comprehensive management strategy for invasive vegetation and insects, forest management and expanded enforcement of covenants.

- **Significant investments needed.**
  - Potential annual investments from each owner exceeding $10,000. These investments would be aimed at making the Preserve more of a Regional destination for passive recreation in the future.