



SIMONE JAFFE COLLINS
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

4/5/04

Sweet Arrow Lake Master Plan

SJC# 03002.10

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING #3 - MINUTES

Date/Time: 3/17/04, 2 PM

Location: Schuylkill County Courthouse

In Attendance: Mary Kay Bernosky – Steering Committee Member
Bob Evanchalk – Steering Committee Member
Denise Donmoyer – Steering Committee Member
Mike Hummel – SJC Team
Lisa Mahall – Steering Committee Member
Craig Morgan– Steering Committee Member
Bill Reichert– Steering Committee Member
Peter Simone – Simone Jaffe Collins, Inc. (SJC)
Susan Smith– Steering Committee Member
David Stauffer – SJC

Notes:

1. Peter S. began the meeting by reviewing the Army Corps project which has been temporarily put on hold due to funding constraints. SJC has been in contact with Joe Ferris of AH Environmental who is preparing the environmental assessment for the Army Corps. Peter S. stated that SJC would formulate a letter to the Corps outlining Master Plan improvements that affect the Army Corps Restoration Project. SJC will coordinate a meeting with the Corps at the Baltimore District Office.
2. Peter S. reviewed the status of the public opinion survey. Reed Haldy McIntosh Associates has completed approximately 50% of the phone interviews and is expecting to complete the remainder of the phone interviews within the next week. Following the completion of the interviews, Dave S. indicated that a preliminary analysis of the survey results might be available in the first weeks of April.
3. Peter S. reviewed the project schedule and indicated that SJC would present a pre-draft of the master plan report at the next Steering Committee meeting. Draft text will be provided for review and comment by the Steering Committee.
4. Peter S. reviewed the site analysis mapping and photos of existing site conditions from the SJC walk of the park with Denise D. and Bob E. The CREP area was identified as area that could be used for a low-impact trail along the creek that would provide access for fishing and bird watching. A small parking area for approximately 8-10 cars was discussed within the CREP property or alternatively this parking could be provided on the south side of Sweet Arrow Lake Road at the existing pull-off area.
5. Peter S. reviewed the conceptual plan including Clubhouse Road improvements along with simplified access to the clubhouse and parking area. Additionally, the presentation of the clubhouse and arrival sequence was discussed in relationship to vehicular access, drop-off, and parking.

6. Peter S. presented the concept of an outdoor event area at the clubhouse. Also, the potential for an outdoor concession area and accessible deck were reviewed.
7. Bob E. supplied SJC with a copy of the ADA accessible fishing pier and walkway plan as prepared by the PA Fish and Boat Commission.
8. Peter S. discussed conceptual ideas for a bridge over the Upper Little Swatara Creek that would allow pedestrians to view the waterfall. A unique structure is encouraged and the initial thought is that the bridge could be a light timber structure with a rustic appearance. To minimize the impact on the steep stream embankments, a suspension structure is preferred. Craig M. stated that the bridge is an important component of the park that should be considered in the early phases of park funding and construction.
9. Funding for the bridge was discussed and Peter S. reviewed the USDA Wood in Transportation Program. The deadline for an application is early April and 2004 may be the last year that this funding is available.
10. SJC shall verify that the waterfall bridge can be constructed on county property. The property line is close to the south side of the Upper Little Swatara Creek and the existing trail in this vicinity passes through private property. Per post meeting review of the county property in this area, there is adequate room to construct the bridge.
11. Access to the existing parking area south of the dam was reviewed. To improve sight distance for vehicles exiting the parking area, Bob E. indicated that Pine Grove Township has cleared brush within the sight line along the east side of Waterfall Road. SJC shall review the site access in the field to determine if any further access improvements are necessary.
12. The concept plan includes a proposed pathway along the north shore of the lake. Peter S. indicated that a 10' wide pathway would be preferred to provide a safe walkway that is separated from Sweet Arrow Lake Road. To create the land area for the pathway and fishing points along the trail, the placement of excavated sediment from the Army Corps restoration project will be required.
13. The north shore of the lake is envisioned to have a formal character between the existing boat launch and the "beach". The pathway to the east of the "beach" enters woodlands and will be a "low impact" pathway or trail constructed of an earthen surface or wood chips. Also, accessible wetland boardwalks are envisioned to allow access for bird watching and nature study.
14. On the south side of the lake, the proposed trail would likely be sited in the field to avoid existing vegetation and adjoining property owner improvements that encroach on county property.
15. If the county is able to acquire the Wiest Property, a trail through this property could be developed to connect from the clubhouse to the eastern areas of the park. To create a connection from the easternmost area of the Wiest property to the county owned land, access easements would be required along with permission to allow a trail through land owned by the Sweet Arrow Lake Homeowners Association.
16. The concepts for the area south of the lake dam include parking improvements, picnic areas, and a trail that connects to the proposed bridge over Upper Little Swatara Creek. Post and rail fence and signage were discussed as ways to discourage users from leaving the trail at steep areas along the creek and to restrict access to the waterfall.
17. Concept Option 1 proposes a swimming area and bathhouse on the north side of the lake while Concept Option 2 propose the swimming area on the south side of the lake in the vicinity of the clubhouse.
18. Peter S. stated that the concepts are diagrammatic at this point and that the plans would be further refined based upon feedback from the Steering Committee. The committee was in agreement that Option 1 should be used by SJC to prepare more detailed plans.

19. The Army Corps budget of 1.8 million was discussed along with the 50% match required of Schuylkill County. Peter S. suggested that the county pursue a \$200,000 to \$400,000 DCNR grant in October 2004 by using Army Corps money as matching funds. Peter S. stressed the importance of having state representative/senator support and urged the county to begin planning now for the grant application in October 2004.
20. Craig M. stated that he did not like the idea of bicycle and roller blade use on the proposed trail along the north side of the lake. It was indicated that the Army Corps has conceptually planned for the trail to be close to the water surface.
21. Craig M. distributed a concept plan prepared by the Army Corps that indicated a parking area along Sweet Arrow Lake Road on the north side of the lake. The possibility of constructing small off road parking spaces along the north side of the lake was reviewed. To construct the parking areas fill material would be required from the Army Corps dredging. Concern over parking adjacent to residential was addressed and it was determined that any parking on the north side of the lake shall be located away from existing residences.
22. Park lighting was briefly reviewed. Peter S. stated that lighting should be provided along the proposed path between the clubhouse and the parking area below the dam. Also, the potential for low-level security lighting at the clubhouse parking area was discussed.
23. The potential for lake swimming was discussed and the consensus was that swimming should only be provided for in a designated area when a lifeguard is on duty. The north side of the lake was preferred for the swimming area. The county shall complete water quality testing this summer.
24. Bob E. indicated that work release workers would clear branches from around the clubhouse. Additionally, stump removal, grading, and seeding around the clubhouse is scheduled for completion in April.
25. Construction of the handicap-fishing pier was discussed. The location of the fishing pier was reviewed and it was indicated that the PA Fish and Boat Commission has suggested the location for the pier.

Next Meeting: Steering Committee Meeting #4 – Wednesday May 12th, location and time to be determined.

Respectfully Submitted,
SIMONE JAFFE COLLINS, INC.
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE



David T. Stauffer, RLA
Project Manager

Cc: Design Team
Steering Committee
Schuylkill County Parks and Recreation Commission
Sweet Arrow Lake Commission



SIMONE JAFFE COLLINS
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

4/22/04

Sweet Arrow Lake Master Plan

SJC# 03002.10

MEETING WITH THE US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS - MINUTES

Date/Time: 4/16/04, 10:30 AM

Location: Baltimore District Offices, 10 S. Howard Street

In Attendance: Fontella Moore – USACOE
Carey Nagoda - USACOE
Joanne Grundy - USACOE
Joseph Ferris – AH Environmental Consultants
Eric Bonazza - AH Environmental Consultants
Robert Evanchalk – Schuylkill County
Mike Hummel, Alfred Benesch Engineers
Peter Simone – Simone Jaffe Collins, Inc. (SJC)

Notes:

1. Peter S. gave an overview of the work proposed by the park master plan consultant team and Schuylkill County.
2. The USACOE was in general agreement with the overall plan. Areas of discussion were as follows.
3. The idea of creating several (probably three) small parking areas on fill on the south side of Sweet Arrow Lake Road was discussed. These would be one way, angled parking areas of 6 to 10 cars, with a fishing "point" or area off of each one. The Corps was in agreement with this concept.
4. The idea of a riverfront pathway around the lake, created from dredged materials was discussed. From the dam areas moving to the west around the lake to the area known locally as the "beach" (point area on the eastern side of the lake) the pathway would be soft surfaced, 5 to 8 feet in width, with green shoulders on either side. The lakefront edge or embankment would be planted with native vegetation as a means to help stabilize the embankment. From the "beach" area further east, the path would become a narrower (3 foot maximum) footpath that would skirt the edge of the lake, below the elevation of Sweet Arrow Lake Road. In many areas, there is adequate room for this pathway to be cleared of any existing vegetation. The only surface improvements, if any, would be mulch. There may be limited areas where there is not sufficient areas of solid land that will accommodate a trail. SJC recommended that these limited areas be "filled" as needed to allow this access to occur. We believe that any negative impact is minimal and can be justified by the mitigation of enhanced and new habitats / wetlands being created on other parts of the site. This will be a decision for the USACOE later in their design process.
5. Mike H. brought up his concern about the stability of the fill materials to be used for the parking lots and pathways. This material is primarily clay. The material, when dried, will require time and compression to fully consolidate. Mike suggested that overburden be added to the fill (which would serve to fully compact the clay), and removed at a later time. However, the timing and funding of the construction probably prevents this technique from being used. It is assumed that the USACOE will resolve the details of how

- best to utilize, compact and stabilize this material used for the trails and parking areas. Also, the USACOE will need to designate a staging area during construction.
6. The USACOE does not wish to fill the "cove" to the east of the existing boat launch parking lot. The USACOE proposes to create an enhanced wetland area in this cove area. There is a drainage pipe that runs under Sweet Arrow Lake Road and empties into the lake. The road itself and the areas to the north of the road floods. Peter S. mentioned that PennDOT plans to resurface the road in a year or two, and it was suggested that PennDOT should be notified of this problem. Since the USACOE will not fill this area, it is not feasible to construct a shallow area along the shoreline that might accommodate a future beach area for swimming. Additional land area is needed for swimming support facilities. There is not sufficient space for these support facilities without filling. The design team will probably recommend an area to the east of the clubhouse for possible future swimming.
 7. Bob E. mentioned that a canoe launch site east of the existing fish and boat commission parking lot is desirable for use for boaters and specifically for use by the YMCA summer camp activities.
 8. The USACOE noted that they do not have any concerns regarding the existing docks that exist behind the private properties (on county land). Bob E. stated that the County will not allow the construction of any new docks.
 9. The USACOE noted that they anticipate moving approximately 200,000 cubic yards of materials in dredging the lake.
 10. Carey N. gave the design team a copy of the "Hazardous, Toxic and Radioactive Waste (HTRW) Analysis of the lake sediment. The USACOE did not note any major concerns regarding this analysis. Also, the USACOE gave the design team a copy of the sediment core analysis.
 11. Carey N. has prepared a concept level plan of the proposed USACOE dredging work. SJC to contact Ben Soliemani of the USACOE for a copy of this plan. Fontella Moore to forward Ben's contact information to SJC. Peter S. mentioned that he would like to include a copy of the plan in the draft report to give context to the master plan. The plan should be labeled "Preliminary Plan".
 12. Joe F. firm will be conducting a wetlands delineation of the lake area in the next few weeks. AH Environmental Consultants will make that information available to the design team.
 13. Bob E. suggested the creation of a small island off of the point (near the clubhouse) with a small footbridge connection to the island from the mainland. The island would be primarily for fishing access.
 14. The USACOE will create a shallow area west of the existing fish and boat launch parking area as a wetland habitat area. The county may use this shallow area for ice-skating in the winter.
 15. Carey N. noted the creation of one of more small wetland areas as "treatment areas" for road run-off prior to the run-off entering the lake.

Recipients are requested to review these minutes and offer comment within ten (10) days of receipt.

Respectfully Submitted,
SIMONE JAFFE COLLINS, INC.
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE



Peter M. Simone, RLA, ASLA
Vice President

Cc: Attendees



SIMONE JAFFE COLLINS
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

5/24/04

Sweet Arrow Lake Master Plan

SJC# 03002.10

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING #4 - MINUTES

Date/Time: 5/12/04, 10 AM

Location: Sweet Arrow Lake Clubhouse

In Attendance: Mary Kay Bernosky – Steering Committee Member
Bob Evanchalk – Steering Committee Member
Denise Donmoyer – Steering Committee Member
Craig Morgan– Steering Committee Member
Bill Reichert– Steering Committee Member
Peter Simone – Simone Jaffe Collins, Inc. (SJC)
Pat Stasio – SJC Team
David Stauffer – SJC

Notes:

1. Peter S. began the meeting by reviewing the results of the public opinion survey. The high percentage of support for open space and conservation areas was discussed and it was indicated that the county would share these results with the comprehensive plan committee. **SJC shall email the survey PowerPoint presentation to the Steering Committee.**
2. The survey results indicating desired facilities at Sweet Arrow Lake County Park were briefly reviewed. Peter S. stated that the results provide a relative gauge of the activities that area desired by county residents. It was noted that the public opinion survey responses represent a random sampling of county residents.
3. The status of the Peer-to-Peer Study was discussed. Craig M. stated that there were issues with the release of the draft Peer-to-Peer report information to the public. **Mary Kay B. stated that she will follow up on the status of the final report and will forward SJC a copy of the draft report.**
4. Peter S. reviewed the preliminary market analysis completed by Ed Crow that programmatically looks at a full build out of park facilities. It was noted that a nominal fee can be charged for certain recreational facilities however not all activities will be up and running right away. Additionally, Peter S. indicated that some of the events outlined within the market analysis would require exclusive use of park facilities.
5. Peter S. indicated that the projected revenue represents an optimistic expectation of use levels based upon similar facility usage rates during the calendar year. Actual revenue will depend on how the facilities are marketed and the fees that are charged. Peter S. stated that the market will likely determine the fee structure and that higher fees will likely result as demand increases and the improvements and special character of the facilities are realized.

6. The market analysis includes a caretaker's salary as an expense. It is anticipated that a full time caretaker will be needed to coordinate scheduling, maintenance, oversee clubhouse events and operations, and to work closely with volunteer groups.
7. **Mark Kay B. shall provide SJC with collective bargaining agreement labor rates for use in analysis of maintenance expenses.**
8. Pat S. indicated that he has talked to county park managers and they all state that a stand-alone park maintenance work force is the best option for maintaining the park.
9. The use of existing county employees to provide maintenance at the park was discussed however it was indicated that their existing workload has to be considered in regard to existing commitments and service provided to facilities located throughout the county.
10. Mary Kay B. suggested that the county consider requesting one full time maintenance worker within the current budget discussions. It was noted that Bob Evanchalk's position could possibly handle caretaker responsibilities during the initial year or so of start-up.
11. Craig M. stated that he would like to see a more realistic budget analysis to reflect the initial start-up period of park facility use. **SJC shall coordinate with Ed Crow to provide a start-up analysis.**
12. Peter S. reviewed minutes from the 4/16/04 meeting with the Army Corps of Engineers at the Baltimore District Office. Overall, the corps was supportive of the idea to use dredged material to create the trail along the lake. SJC is in the process of acquiring a concept sketch prepared by the Corps to show areas where dredged material will be placed.
13. Peter S. indicated that the Army Corps estimates that $\pm 200,000$ cubic yards of material will be removed from the lake. SJC has roughly calculated that $\pm 80,000$ cubic yards of material would be needed to create the trails. Peter S. stated that it might be cost prohibitive to truck the excess material off site. Mary Kay B. indicated that there are mines that may be willing to accept and haul the dredged material. This could possibly count towards the required county funding match.
14. The location of the proposed beach and lake swimming area on the north shore was reviewed with the Army Corps and this location conflicts with a wetland area proposed by the Army Corps. The master plan report will include the swimming option on the north shore of the lake and an alternate option that shows the beach and swimming area on the south side of the lake near the clubhouse. The county will need to negotiate with the Army Corps to provide an area that might accommodate a beach in the future.
15. Peter S. stated that the Army Corps consulting engineer was supposed to complete a wetland delineation for the site.
16. Peter S. reviewed the proposed improvements shown on the site plans for the clubhouse area, lower dam area, and the boat launch area.
17. Bob E. suggested that the clubhouse parking layout be reviewed in the field after the meeting. The location was review by Bob E, Peter S., Pat S., and Dave S. after the meeting. It was determined that the proposed road alignment would continue to follow the existing road alignment to the clubhouse. Also, the island in between the parking bays would be narrowed so that the upper parking bay can be shifted to avoid unnecessary excavation of the steep embankment.
18. SJC will provide a sketch of the building interior showing how the bathrooms can be enlarged and how access can potential be provided to the restrooms while preventing visitor access to the remainder of the clubhouse.
19. Bill R. expressed concerns of the proposed location of the ADA accessible fishing pier and island interfering with the good fish habitat associated with the shelf located at the point.
20. The idea of providing an environmental education building at the clubhouse was reviewed. Peter S. stated that this is something that can be mentioned in the master plan

report however a stand-alone building may be better situated in a different location or different park. It was noted that environmental education programming could be accommodated with the use of the proposed pavilions at the park.

21. Peter S. reviewed the proposed pedestrian bridge over the Upper Little Swatara Creek that would allow pedestrians to view the waterfall. The master plan shall identify post and rail fencing to limit user access to the falls and to users from damaging the sensitive areas of steep embankment.
22. Bill R. noted concerns of kids entering the dam outfall structure from the pathway that crosses above this and concerns that trash might accumulate in this location.
23. Peter S. indicated that the proposed walkway from the parking area below the lake to the clubhouse should have an all-weather asphalt surface and the pathway should have lighting. It is desirable to have the entire trail ADA compliant however it is not required as ADA access and handicap spaces are provided at the clubhouse.
24. The location of the canoe rental on the north shore was reviewed and it was discussed that this location should possibly be moved to the clubhouse side of the lake. For use by organized groups, a separate canoe launch access area is shown on the north side of the lake.
25. Anchorage and reinforcement may be required to stabilize embankments created along the edge of the water by the placement of dredged fill material to create the trail. Peter S. stated that he felt that this could be accomplished through the use of vegetation and this is something that the Army Corps would determine as part of the lake restoration project.
26. Pat S. reviewed maintenance and staffing options which include: in house maintenance staffing, outsourcing maintenance staff, and a roving county maintenance crew.
27. Pat S. indicated that all the county park managers that he has contacted indicate that in-house staffing is the preferred method of providing park maintenance.
28. Pat S. suggested that the county talk to their insurance company about the existing site conditions prior to inviting the public to the clubhouse for the upcoming public meeting or charging the YMCA Summer Camp to use the clubhouse and grounds.
29. The idea of providing canoe mooring spaces along the north shore of the lake was discussed. Peter S. noted concern with the amount of space that would be required for boat mooring. SJC will note in the draft master plan report.
30. The upcoming public meeting was discussed. Peter S. reviewed a draft press release and asked for comment from the committee. Also, concern was noted that the exterior appearance of the clubhouse and grounds might give county residents a negative view of what the county is doing with the property.
31. Peter S. suggested that caution tape be installed to restrict public access to unsafe areas if the Clubhouse is used for the meeting. Also, it was suggested that someone direct traffic from Shoreline Drive.
32. Peter S. discussed the grant application process and suggested that the county leverage money from the Army Corps project to acquire additional state and federal funding in the range of \$400,00 to \$600,000. To be successful in acquiring a grant in this range will require strong state representative/senator support, support of the county commissioners as well as support from local municipalities and conservation groups.
33. Bob E. discussed the possibility of applying for a 902 Recycling Grant to reconstruct the Clubhouse Road using recycled glass pavement or "glassphalt". This would require signage at the end of the drive indicating construction with recycled glass.
34. Recommended Clubhouse Road improvements include paving a 20' wide cartway with two 10' travel lanes. Minimal unpaved shoulders are suggested to avoid excessive disturbance within the 33' wide access easement.

35. Peter S. stated that preliminary cost estimates for full development of all park facilities included in the master plan is ± \$3 million. SJC will forward the committee a copy of the full cost estimate prior to the public meeting.

Next Meeting: Public Meeting #2 – June 2, 2004, 4-6 PM and 7-9 PM at the Sweet Arrow Lake Clubhouse. Steering Committee Meeting #5 will be held in September 2004 after the 2-month public review period.

Respectfully Submitted,
SIMONE JAFFE COLLINS, INC.
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE



David T. Stauffer, RLA
Project Manager

Cc: Design Team
Fontella Moore, US Army Corps of Engineers
Steering Committee
Schuylkill County Parks and Recreation Commission
Sweet Arrow Lake Commission



SIMONE JAFFE COLLINS
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

06/07/04

Sweet Arrow Lake Master Plan

SJC# 30002.10

PUBLIC MEETING #2 - MINUTES

Date/Time: 06/02/04, 4:30 and 7:30 PM

Location: Sweet Arrow Lake Clubhouse

In Attendance: Sarah Leeper – Simone Jaffe Collins, Inc. (SJC)
Peter Simone – SJC
David Stauffer – SJC
See Attached Attendance Sheets

Notes:

1. Peter S. began the meeting with introductions, and a brief overview of the project process to date. Additionally, the Army Corps lake restoration project, public opinion survey results, and the benefits of public parks were reviewed.
2. An attendee asked what the Army Corps intended to do with the dredged material. Peter S. replied that the intent is to reposition material on site to minimize costs associated with hauling the material to off site locations.
3. Peter S. presented the proposed improvements for the park stressing the unique location of the Clubhouse and the need to respect the special character of the site.
4. Peter S. finished the presentation by reviewing a market analysis of the Clubhouse facility, the cost of the park improvements, funds raised to date, and potential funding sources.
5. An attendee stated that the historical facilities should be highlighted as park facilities are developed.
6. It was asked what would happen if the Army Corps project did not take place within the next year. Peter S. stated that many of the park improvements can be constructed independently of the Army Corps lake restoration.
7. The question was raised whether a cover bridge structure had been considered for the proposed pedestrian bridge. Peter S. replied that a laminate wood suspension bridge is proposed to create an open feeling allowing users to experience the ravine and the waterfall.
8. It was asked if the volume of the lake would be reduced by the Army Corps work. Peter S. stated that his understanding was that water volume would not be significantly reduced.

9. Concern was stated over the height of the trail from the lake water surface along Sweet Arrow Lake Road and whether fencing would be used. Peter S. explained that the trail would sit lower than the road and that fill material would gently slope into the lake. The slopes are intended to be planted so that fencing is not necessary.
10. An attendee asked if riprap would be necessary to stabilize the trail along Sweet Arrow Lake Road. Peter S. stated that the bank will be stabilized with a riparian vegetation planting, a technique that has proven more aesthetic, economical, and successful than riprap.
11. It was asked how the beach option for the clubhouse would effect the existing adjacent dock. Peter S. replied that it might be many years before swimming becomes a reality, and the location has not been determined. If the beach and swimming area is located at the clubhouse it may be necessary to move or replace the existing dock.
12. It was asked whether the parking would be sufficient for the park. Peter S. stated that new parking lots were being proposed and that approximately 180 spaces are proposed to meet the needs of park users.
13. Concern of the widening of the clubhouse road/ driveway was discussed. Peter S. stated that for safety the road would need to be widened to a 20' paved cartway with minimal shoulders. The intent of the road improvements is to minimize woodland disturbance and preserve the character of the road.
14. It was inquired if signage would be incorporated at the intersection of Lake Shore Drive and Clubhouse Road to prevent park users from continuing on Lake Shore Drive past existing residences. Peter S. stated that entrance signage will be incorporated in the Master Plan.
15. It was stated that there would be a two-month review period of the draft plans during which time the public could contact SJC with their comments.
16. The plans are available to view at:

Schuylkill County Planning Department
County Courthouse in Pottsville
Pine Grove Borough Hall
Pine Grove Township Municipal offices
Washington Township Municipal offices

17. The plans can be viewed online at:

www.schuylkill.us
www.nscwa.homestead.com/
www.sweetarrow.homestead.com/

**Next Meeting: September 15th – Park and Recreation Commission &
Sweet Arrow Lake Commission**

Respectfully Submitted,
SIMONE JAFFE COLLINS, INC.
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE



Sarah R. Leeper

cc: Steering Committee
Design Team
Park and Rec. Commission
SAL Commission

**Sweet Arrow Lake County Master Plan
Public Meeting #2
June 2, 2004, 4- 6 PM and 7- 9 PM at Sweet Arrow Lake Clubhouse**

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL
ROBERT CARL, JR	3012 RIDGEVIEW DR OLIVIOSBURG	366-1685 (#) 628-1201 (w)	
FRANK STAUDENMEIER	COURTHOUSE	628-1202	
JOHN GUERS	COURTHOUSE (PLANNING + ZONING)	628-1424	
Charles Ross	COURTHOUSE (Planning + Zoning)	628-1415	
Myrna Herring	105 Division St. Valley View, Pa 17983	672-9496	
Aimee Reiter	713 Mountain Road, Pine Grove, PA 17963	345-0442	amreiter@epix.net
Doris & Ken Meyer	9 Harbor Lights Ln. Pine Grove PA 17963	345-3213	
George & Merrian Smith	401 Nichols St Pottsville - Pa 17884	628-5888	
IAN PALMER	418 FRONT ST. MINERSVILLE 17954	544-3105	icpmick@infonline.net
KEN LEHMAN	159 S Tulpehocken St Pine Grove	345-2746	
Joy & Paul Kengel	713 BRADBURY DR MT PA. SC	984-6180	
FRANK SNYDER	PCNR-Forestry 10 Box 99 CRESSKOPPA	385 7807	frsnyder@state.pa.us
ANNETTA & BOB SCHWALM	PINE GROVE	345-4915	
EARL SHULLENBERGER	24 ELWOOD HANR. P.G. PA.	345-8509	MA6024@LOCALNET.COM
M. IRVIL KEAR	418 FRONT ST. MINERSVILLE 17954	544-3105	
Denise Donmeyer	7 Lakefront Dr. Pine Grove 17963	570 345 8952	nightowl@epix.net
Jeanne & Tony Gurski	15 Harbor Lights Lane Pine Grove 17963	570-345-8371	jlouise@2@hotmail.com
Michelle Potts	17 Potts Rd. Pine Grove Pa. 17963	570-345-4076	
Bob Milligan	35 E. Pottsville St + PG.		
Katie Holden	178 Scenic View Rd Pine Grove	345-0668	

**Sweet Arrow Lake County Master Plan
Public Meeting #2**

June 2, 2004, 4- 6 PM and 7- 9 PM at Sweet Arrow Lake Clubhouse

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL
Erin Allen	155 Hiddenwood Dr Harrisburg PA 17110		
MK Bernosky	401 N. 2d St Pottsville PA 17901		
Tom Davidock	68 Penn St Post Clinton, PA 19509	484 665-0320	tdavidock@co.schuylk.pa.us
MR & MRS JACK WOLFF	TREMONT, PA. 17981	570-695-3544	
Jennifer Wolff	Tremont, PA 17981		
Sandra Staff	134 W. LAKE DR. Pine Grove PA 17963 155 Hiddenwood Dr Hbg. PA	(717) 526-4143	
Allen & Judy Chungst	147 TRUMBO RD PINE GROVE, PA 17963	570 345 8211	
DOROTHY GIBB	HORNE ENGINEERING VA	703 644 1100	DGIBB@HORNE.COM
Fornest Shadle	P.O. Box 393, Lavelle, PA 17943	570-875-4730	
Kelly Hoak	1503 Mt. Hope Ave Pottsville PA 17901	570-628-3813	
GARRIE ROUSE	PO BOX 146, AYLETT, VA 23009	804-769-0846	
MATT DRANKHECK	1503 Mt Hope AVE POTTSVILLE PA 17901	570-628-3813	
Kelly Mike Stefanuk	86 Shoreline Dr	345-4963	
CAROL KEESSEY	154 West Lake Dr Pine Grove	345-8684	jKeessey01@comcast.net
Jim Zerbe	1433 W. MAIN ST., VALLEY VIEW, PA	682-8130	
Barb Tucker	20 E Liberty St Sch Haven		
JEFF LONG	122 LEGION BLVD, PINE GROVE	345-6105	
Carrie Long	15 SPRUCE ST., PINE GROVE	345-4712	
Robert Long	" " " " "	"	



SIMONE JAFFE COLLINS
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

9/23/04

Sweet Arrow Lake Master Plan

SJC# 03002.10

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING #5 - MINUTES

Date/Time: 9/15/04, 2 PM

Location: Schuylkill County Courthouse

In Attendance: Mary Kay Bernosky – Steering Committee Member
Wayne Bowen– Parks and Recreation Commission
Ed Crow – SJC Team
Bob Evanchalk – Steering Committee Member
Denise Donmoyer – Steering Committee Member
Mike Hummel – SJC Team
Sarah Leeper – Simone Jaffe Collins, Inc. (SJC)
Lisa Mahall – Steering Committee Member
Earl Matz – Steering Committee Member
Craig Morgan – Steering Committee Member
Lorrie Ogden – Schuylkill County Grant Writer
David Stauffer – SJC

Notes:

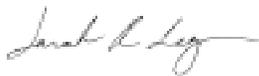
1. Dave S. started the meeting by reviewing both the Army Corps and DCNR comments on the draft report. He stated that SJC felt all the comments made were fair and can be incorporated into the final plan.
2. Dave S. addressed the Army Corps' comment regarding the plans for swimming. He stated that there are pros and cons associated with either swimming site. For funding purposes, the committee suggested that the county should chose one option over the other. Mary Kay B. stated that both options should be left in the report but that the county should select a preferred option. Dave S. noted that the ultimate location of the swimming area will need to be negotiated with the Army Corps.
3. Next, Dave S. reviewed the DCNR comment letter and SJC's response. **SJC to forward the comment response letter to DCNR.**
4. Dave S. presented the changes made to the clubhouse site plan based upon comments received from Bob E. Bob E. had pointed out that office space outside of the clubhouse would be desirable for running the park along with a storage area for maintenance equipment. SJC is proposing that one of the clubhouse area pavilions should incorporate an enclosed building that would accommodate a small park office and restrooms. Also, a small maintenance area of 1,000 SF has been proposed at the end of the lower parking lot.
5. Craig M. stated that he felt the maintenance area was too far removed from the clubhouse and might be subject to vandalism.

6. Bob E. pointed out that at this time the local neighborhood is very active in policing the park. Dave S. stated that the location had been selected to ensure that the maintenance area does not become a dominant feature within the clubhouse area. **He stated that SJC would price both temporary and permanent structures for the maintenance building.**
7. Ed C. reviewed an updated analysis of potential clubhouse uses. He stressed the importance of having the clubhouse site completely ready before renting it out so that first impressions reflect positive experiences.
8. Ed C. stated that the Clubhouse was unique in offering a serene setting that is removed from regular daily activities thus making it an ideal business retreat location. Therefore, Ed C. stated that the county should primarily focus on retreats and weddings to generate revenue. He stated that the county could make the facility more unique for business retreats by organizing and seeing to all details, such as food and overnight accommodations at local motels. Ed C. pointed out that the current parking was probably sufficient for a retreat, however access to the overflow parking at the dam would be necessary to accommodate larger weddings.
9. Craig M. asked how the county should go about marketing the clubhouse. Ed C. stated that Pennsylvania would be starting a publication of retreat facilities this November. He also advised that the county should focus on marketing within the Harrisburg area along with the Rt. 422, and I-81 corridors.
10. Earl M. suggested that there should be a rate structure for Senior Citizens. Ed C. agreed with this idea.
11. Ed C. stressed the importance of having a park manager with a 24-hour site presence to ensure that events are carried off with no problems. He also suggested 2 part-time maintenance people.
12. Next, Dave S. presented a phasing plan for the park. He stated that the phasing had been developed taking into consideration improvements that were not dependant on the Army Corps work. The primary focus of improvement is the clubhouse area followed by the dam site, and the existing boat launch area. Formalizing the Clubhouse access and providing basic site lighting were suggested early in the project development to ensure site safety.
13. Bob E. stated that he had received comments concerning the proposed trail from the dam area to the boat launch area that would be constructed on fill. This area has historically provided prime fish habitat. He has suggested that the trail be moved up onto the slope between Waterfall Road and the lake. Dave S. noted that this would create a hiking trail as opposed to a multi-use trail proposed on fill material placed along the shore.
14. Bob E. also stated that Pheasants Forever is willing to donate native switch grass seed to plant on the dam embankment slope. Earl M stated that the original contractor would be back to the site to reseed where grass has not established. It was suggested that the contractor could use the donated seed. Dave S. suggested possibly adding native wildflowers into the seed mix.
15. Dave S. discussed the DCNR grant application process and stated that the application deadline is October 13th. Dave S. stated that SJC suggests that the county apply for a grant in the amount of \$300,000 to \$400,000 using the Army Corp project as a source of matching funds.

16. Dave S. stated that it was important for the Steering Committee to gain grant application support of government representatives and the county commissioners who can then talk directly to Larry Williamson, director of PA DCNR.
17. Lorrie O. stated that the county should consider a larger grant request in the amount of \$800,000 based upon the opportunity provided by the use of Army Corps as a funding match. The county will determine the grant amount based upon facilities that can be completed in approximately two to three years.
18. The need for written confirmation from the Army Corps was discussed. Lorrie O. indicated that the Army Corps funding match would not necessarily need to be in place until October 2005. Bob E. to contact Fontella Moore at the Army Corps Baltimore District after October 1st.
19. The final presentation of the master plan was discussed. Dave S. stated that this could occur at a regularly scheduled County Commissioners meeting or the SJC proposal suggested a special meeting of the County Commissioners to create visibility for the plan and indicate commitment of the Commissioners towards creating a county park system.
20. It was decided that the presentation of the final master plan to the commissioners would not be required to take place prior to the October 13, 2004 DCNR grant application deadline. **SJC to coordinate with Bob E. to finalize the date of the final plan presentation.**

Next Meeting: Public Meeting #3 - TBD

Respectfully Submitted,
SIMONE JAFFE COLLINS, INC.
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE



Sarah R. Leeper



SIMONE JAFFE COLLINS
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

9/23/04

Sweet Arrow Lake Master Plan

SJC# 03002.10

**SCHUYLKILL COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION AND SWEET ARROW LAKE
COMMISSION MEETING #2 - MINUTES**

Date/Time: 9/15/04, 7 PM

Location: Sweet Arrow Lake Clubhouse

In Attendance: Ed Crow – SJC team
Sarah Leeper – Simone Jaffe Collins, Inc. (SJC)
David Stauffer – SJC
(See attached attendance sheet)

Notes:

1. Dave S. opened the meeting by presenting an overview of the project, focusing on the site plans for proposed improvements at the Clubhouse Area, Dam Area, and Boat Launch Area.
2. Ed C. presented his revised market analysis for the Clubhouse. It was stated that a \$20 fee for pavilion rental seemed low and that \$300 for the Clubhouse seemed high. Ed C. stated that he felt \$300 dollars for the clubhouse was reasonable given the desirability of its unique setting.
3. Earl M. stated that two part time maintenance people would not be sufficient support for the caretaker; he suggested that these should be full time positions. Ed C. responded that initially this position would most likely be part time however as the clubhouse and park amenities come on line these positions might become full time.
4. Next, Dave S. presented the phasing plan. He stated that the initial improvements would focus on the clubhouse area including formalizing pedestrian and vehicular circulation, basic site lighting, buffer planting, clubhouse site improvements, and the pedestrian bridge to the dam parking area.
5. Ann T. inquired why SJC felt there was a need for more parking at the clubhouse, what the fire marshal had set as the maximum capacity of the Clubhouse and pavilion, and what the current size of the existing parking lot was. Dave S. responded that the current parking lot could accommodate approximately 50 cars and that as more amenities were constructed it was important to formalize and expand the parking facilities. In the case of the Clubhouse area, the clubhouse parking may have to accommodate a Clubhouse event in addition to parking for the general public that might wish to access other park amenities and facilities from this area.
6. Ann T. stated she felt that the improvements to Clubhouse Road should take priority over parking improvements; **she requested that SJC email her a copy of the phasing plan for her committee to review.**
7. Earl M. inquired where play equipment fits into the phasing plan. Dave S. pointed out that it came in phase five following the development of the clubhouse pavilion areas.

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8. Ann T. inquired why a boat launch with controlled access was proposed and stated that this may incite vandalism. Dave S. explained that this boat launch would be an addition to the existing boat launch (that would remain open to the public) and that it had been requested by the steering committee to accommodate groups such as scouts or the YMCA.
9. Mike S. asked if SJC had considered the potential for boat trailer traffic to overflow onto Sweet Arrow Lake Road as the boat launch became more popular. Dave S. responded that formalization and expansion of parking lot was proposed to allow boats to wait within the parking area if the launch is crowded.
10. Ann T. inquired why a swimming fee should be charged and what service people could expect in exchange for the fee. Denise D. stated that many parks now charge for swimming. Dave S. pointed out that the fee is suggested to cover costs associated with providing lifeguards and a changing area.
11. Bill R. stated that SJC should not refer to the parking lot at the east end of the park as the CREP parking area since parking is not permitted within CREP areas. He suggested that we term this the upstream parking lot.
12. Dave S. stated that the Steering Committee requested that the trail from the dam to the boat launch be constructed on the slope between the lake and Waterfall Road instead of being built on fill material placed along the shore. The main reason for this request is to preserve the existing fish habitat located along the shore. Dave S. noted that the trail on the slope would be a hiking trail as opposed to a multi-use trail proposed for construction on fill material along the shore.
13. Bill R. stated that he was against having an island off of the point at the clubhouse due to the impact it might have on the existing bass habitat created by the subsurface conditions in the vicinity of the proposed island location. Sarah L. stated that this island was proposed to provide the desired ADA fishing access while maintaining the natural setting found along the clubhouse shore. It was suggested that the final location of the island/ADA fishing access should be determined once the lake is drained down and the topography of the lake bottom can be observed.
14. Dave S. discussed project funding and stated that SJC was suggesting that the county apply for a DCNR grant (due 10/13/04) in the amount of \$300,000 to \$400,000. Dave noted that it was important for the community to get local government representatives involved to ensure that DCNR is aware of the importance of the project.
15. Lastly, Dave S. stated that the date of the Final Public Meeting was still to be decided, however it would take place before either an October or November Schuylkill County Commissioners meeting.

Next Meeting: Public Meeting #3 – TBD

Respectfully Submitted,
SIMONE JAFFE COLLINS, INC.
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE



Sarah R. Leeper

