Harmony Trail Committee

Report 12/13/2017

Bridge permit – our contractor was told to check back on the 19th. We have seen our status changed to passing the technical review on their dashboard. We appear close to receiving permission.

Commonwealth Greenway Grant application selection committee has approved a $63,000 grant for us to use for the bridge, the tax delinquent properties and other trail improvements. We expect to get a contract from them listing the particulars.

Although we were highly confident that we would be awarded $15,000 by ARAD it turned out that they rejected our request. To the best of our understanding they felt that they had already contributed to the bridge with the grant they gave us for $10,000 this year.

We also were rejected by the DCNR for the Community Conservation Partnership Program (C2P2) grant. They invited us to try again between 1/22/18 and 4/11/18.

The tax delinquent properties process has moved along. We will be asked shortly to pay the approximately $14,000 for the properties. Once that is done it will take about 5 more months until we can close on the properties. We will probably ask the Board to approve the expense in the December meeting. We expect to get reimbursed for this expense by the Commonwealth Fund Grant.

We are still waiting for the MOU process to complete with Allegheny Parks. They send us a version that was acceptable but it had editing errors. Once those are corrected by them we should be ready to sign.

We have received no update from Penn Power on the parking lot.

We are planning to use the grant money to hire a qualified project manager for the bridge project. Having someone with experience should make us more successful in selecting a bridge, getting the footers done correctly and building the bridge with volunteers. We listed this expense in the grant application. We need to see the contract to see if there are any restrictions.

I was told that our newsletter will be distributed to the residents of Blue Heron