

**BLACK HILL TRAIL RENOVATION PROJECT  
CHURCHILL VILLAGE SOUTH HOA MEETING  
APRIL 14, 2010 @ 7:00 P.M.**

**Attendees**

Church Hill Village South Board:

M-NCPPC:                                      Butch Payton      (301)495-3587      [william.payton@montgomeryparks.org](mailto:william.payton@montgomeryparks.org)  
   Clare Runkles      (301)495-2548      [clare.runkles@montgomeryparks.org](mailto:clare.runkles@montgomeryparks.org)

The project involves renovation of the trail and stream restoration (in a later contract) to become an 8' wide asphalt trail and boardwalk with an observation deck, safety rail, block walls (where needed), and ADA specifications, where needed. There will be innovative construction specs for pathway sections, low impact construction with helical piers and methods to aid wildlife crossings and tree protection.

Currently we are meeting with the 3 affected HOAs prior to setting up a Summer community meeting to provide information on this project, as we address the issues raised by the HOAs. Forms of communication are the websites of the HOAs, posting signs at the entrances of each neighborhood, and posting notices at the 2 pools and community buildings. We would like to use some of the HOA land near Lake Park Dr. as staging area, and it would be left in as good a shape as we found it. An agreement or easement would be needed. Annie is the point of contact for the easements, etc. Later there may be more areas denoted as staging areas, like the WSSC building area. For the information meeting, we will be more able to designate and highlight which sections of the trail will be asphalt and which will be boardwalk. We (staff and consultants) need to also identify areas where the feathered slope due to trail expansion to 8' crosses private and/or HOA properties for easements to be arranged.

**HOA Issues:**

- Do not install an elevated boardwalk by the playground off Lake Park Ct. That would be too dangerous. The trail is mostly used by parents with strollers, bikers, joggers, walkers and dog walkers.
- Noise of the boardwalk – will be abated by utilizing butt joints.
- Doggie stations are a necessity – especially for stretches of a long boardwalk.
- Do not put an observation deck in the proposed area – it's too close to the rear of neighboring houses, and the original gazebo at the lower end of the trail off Wisteria became a party and drug hangout. [That also included vandalizing the gazebo, which led to it being donated to Black Hill Reg. Park, then renovated and located by the boathouse, and becoming a very popular picnic site.]
- There's a steep area below the curve and causeway, and that's a more public area, where an observation deck might be needed. One access problem is the large rocks fenced-off from the trail, due to safety reasons.
- Need to align the 2 trails (Parks' and Churchill Foundation's) where they cross the street. A painted crosswalk or Trail Crossing warning signs are needed. The Foundation handles Lake Churchill, the trail around it, the commercial establishments on Father Hurley Blvd. and collects fees.