



From the WillisTowne Crier Newsletter, November 2006

OKEHOCKING NATURE CENTER UPDATE – NOVEMBER 2006

Architect Chosen for Project if Funded; Ongoing Outreach

As reported in the last edition of the *Crier*, the township is pursuing the creation of a nature center at Okehocking Preserve. Most recently, the township submitted a grant application for a feasibility study and schematic design to the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' (DCNR) Community Conservation Partnerships Program in the amount of \$106,300. The township has committed to a \$40,000 cash match to this grant application.

The township is pleased to report that Muscoe Martin of M² Architecture, an architect with extensive experience designing environmental education and nature centers utilizing green technology and sustainable design, is very interested in the project and provided a scope of work for the DCNR grant application. Muscoe served as principal-in-charge of the Cusano Environmental Education Center at the Heinz Wildlife Refuge in Tinicum as well as the Natural Lands Trust Headquarters in Media.

Programming partnership outreach for the nature center continues, meetings with 14 potential programming partners having occurred just after the deadline for this newsletter. Keep your eyes peeled for the next *Towne Crier* for news of these meetings. If you would like to share your thoughts on this project or volunteer your time, please contact Mary McLoughlin at 610-640-1669.