

East Pikeland Township
Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes
June 25, 2007

Present: Kim Dunn, Pat Kautz, Caesar Muzzioli, Gus Orr, Marilyn Randolph, Rusty Strauss
Staff: Kim Moretti, Township Manager

Status of Ordinance to Create Open Space Committee

Rusty Strauss reported that the ordinance had been drafted and is scheduled for enactment by the Board of Supervisors at their meeting in July. The ordinance forms an Open Space Committee made up of one member of the Board of Supervisors, one member from the Planning Commission and seven additional residents appointed by the Board of Supervisors. The Committee members would serve for a three year term with the terms being staggered. Officers for the Committee would include a Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary. The Board of Supervisors would make the initial appointment of the Chairman. The draft ordinance was further reviewed relative to duties of the Committee and reporting requirements.

Procedures

There was discussion on how detailed the ordinance should be relative to the procedures the committee should follow. Rusty distributed draft procedures that were discussed with several changes recommended. These procedures need to be incorporated into the draft ordinance.

Kim Moretti questioned if one appraisal was sufficient when considering purchase of a property. She will ask the Solicitor to confirm. *[Note: Per the 2nd Class Township Code, only one appraisal is required.]*

Identify Committee Tasks / Resources

- **Resources** – Several planning documents are available that contain documents/maps identifying various resources. Committee should review the 2001 Comprehensive Plan and the 1993 Recreation, Open Space Plan and Environmental Resources Plan. Sample Priority Guidelines from French & Pickering Trust will also be reviewed.
- **Priority Guidelines** – these are the criteria that will be used to evaluate properties to be considered for open space. Items to be considered include: property size, linkages with other open space, recreation value and trail linkages, natural features to protect (floodplains, wetlands, water bodies, existing vegetation, geologic resources), viewshed, stream value, historical value or proximity to historic features, soils and agricultural value, wildlife and preservation of wildlife corridors.
- **Inventory / Map Available Lands** – LTL Consultants, the township engineer, can prepare GIS maps for the Committee. Kim Dunn asked if she could obtain copies of the County GIS layers because she has the GIS software on her computer and can then present those maps at meetings of the Committee. Kim Moretti will look into this.
- **Identify Landowners** – Kim Moretti said that she has a listing from 2004 of properties included on the Act 319 or Act 515 lists. She will update those lists for Committee use. She also has a listing of properties of 20 acres plus.

Miscellaneous

It was suggested that the Open Space Committee have a booth for public education on open space at Community Day on September 15th.

The Fall newsletter should include an article on Open Space initiatives.

Regular Meeting Date for the Open Space Committee will be the 3rd Thursday of each month.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 19th at 7 pm.