

**East Pikeland Township  
Open Space Committee**

**Meeting Minutes  
July 17, 2018**

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm

Present: Rusty Strauss, John Schott, Stock Illoway, & Martin Sheehan

Absent: Betsy Burns, Lori Beck, & Kersten Appler

Staff: Michelle Rubin

Minutes from the May meeting were approved with no changes.

Michelle reported that the budget is at \$4.78M and is estimated to bring in \$300k more this year.

- Michelle reported that the township's new investment policy is not going to impact Open Space funds. The policy is simply a statement about the Township's investment policy, but the way in which we are investing is not changing.

**Old Business**

1. Brief property updates:

- **Pikeland Glen:**
  - Michelle reported that she met with Bill Gladden, the Director of Open Space at Chester County about payment options for the property and other available open space funds through the county.
  - She also reported that the Cromby Power Plant, which sits next to the Pikeland Glen property has been sold to Demco, a demolition company that will prepare the site for a new buyer.
    - The big question is how the sale will affect the value of the Pikeland Glen land.
    - Michelle will continue to update the committee as more information becomes available.
- **Graham**
  - Stock made a presentation about the property at the Board of Supervisors meeting last Tuesday. The Board approved placing a conservation easement on the land, now it is up to the Township to work with French and Pickering Creek Conservation Trust to draw up the formal documents.
  - The Township needs to figure out what we want on the property before the documents are drawn up. Work with Park and Recreation, the Board of Supervisors, etc.
    - Rusty asked Michelle to discover the current terms of the lease agreement
  - Stock suggested doing a joint walk through of the property with Park and Recreation.
    - Michelle will inform the Board at their meeting and will arrange a walk for a Saturday in August. Will need to inform the lessee.
      - a. The EAC will be invited as well
  - The Committee would like to send notice to West Vincent and the lessee about the impending new status of the land.
- **Kolb**
  - The appraiser has had trouble getting in touch with the landowner, but they have finally connected. The appraisal will be done in 2 weeks.
- **Davis**

- John reiterated that the Davis's will update the committee when the property officially sells. The Committee would like to work with the developer to come up with something creative that will result in a buffer or retaining park of the land near the park/ball fields/fairgrounds.
- The committee discussed other alternative methods of acquiring the land.
- Steimer
  - John is working on getting in touch with John Steimer Jr.
- Wagner
  - Rusty spoke to the attorney about the declined appraisal. The attorney will relay the message to the owners, but he is encouraging them to continue working with the township.
- Dixon
  - Rusty will follow up
- Waterworld
  - Michelle informed the committee that the price of the land has dropped and there have been a number of inquiry calls this week about the property.
- East Pikeland Elementary
  - The school district knows that the Township is interested in the old East Pikeland Elementary School property. We are still waiting for their appraisal, and Michelle will continue to report back to the committee.
    - The committee discussed putting a right of first refusal on the property.
- Piazza
  - No updates, as far as the committee knows they're still interested in selling it
- Brimful Farm
  - Michelle will continue to look into the legality of the document that states the township's rights over the open space in that subdivision.

## 2. Database work

- The Committee decided to fill in 5 properties every meeting. Michelle will communicate in advance what the properties will be so committee members can compile their past information on the properties in question.

## **New Business**

### 1. Park and Recreation/Open Space Meeting 9/25 (tentative)

- Committee members are free on the night of September 25 and will attend.
- They are especially interested in discussing trail connections to the Schuylkill River Trail.
- Michelle informed the committee that the Park and Recreation Community Survey Results would also be discussed, as they will help guide the township toward a new Park and Recreation Plan, which will also help to guide the Open Space Committee.

### 2. Next meeting?

- The next Open Space Meeting is August 21, until otherwise announced.

## **Public Comment**

None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15