

**East Pikeland Township
Open Space Committee**

**Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2020**

Meeting called to order at 7:06pm.

Present: Betsy Burns, Lori Beck, Margaret Hodgkiss-Lilly, Rusty Strauss, Emily Gorge, & John Schott

Absent: Stock Illoway & Patrick Jennings

Guests: Phil Colaneri (resident), John Gayl (resident), & Mike Layne (resident)

Staff: Michelle Rubin

Minutes from the February meeting were approved with no changes.

Michelle reported that the open space fund is at \$2,528,726.85

New Business

1. Joint Trail Sub-Committee

- Michelle informed the committee that a joint trail committee would be formed in the coming months once a new map of existing trails had been acquired. The committee would be made up of members from the Park and Recreation and Open Space Boards.
- John Schott said that the committee will also need to consider the Planning Commission as well. The existing trail map helps the PC ensure that right of ways and other trails are received when developments are proposed. Whatever new maps are created, we need to have one that includes planned/future trails for this purpose.
- Rusty also mentioned that the Regional Planning Committee is working on a map of regional trails, that will also be important to consider for regional connections. He also mentioned creating a pocket trail map with current trails for residents and other visitors to use.

Old Business

1. Open Space Tour

- Currently postponed. We will wait to see what's happening in the fall. To get a tentative date on the books Michelle will send out a Doodle poll for September dates. Michelle will also send committee members the new Open Space map. At the next committee meeting unprotected properties to visit will be discussed. She will also talk with Stock and Rusty about protected properties that should be visited.

2. Township Property Protections

- Graham and Crouse now have Declarations of Public trust. John Schott asked what the status of Woodbridge is, Michelle will check. Ridge Rd. is on the list to be protected. John made a motion to recommend that the Board of Supervisors place some type of protection on the Ridge Rd. parcels, Lori seconded. All were in favor.

3. Bridges for trail connections

- Michelle shared a program that takes retired metal bridges in PA and gives them new life along trails. As the joint trail committee begins to discuss future trails we could look into this if we need. The bridge Stock was looking into is in pieces and would be difficult to reconstruct.

4. Solar Ordinance Discussion

- The committee discussed the draft Solar Ordinance being discussed by the Planning Commission. John Schott reported that the County wanted them to change some of the commercial limitations, they will be revisiting. The committee will continue to discuss once the changes have been made.

5. Open Space Database

- None this month

6. Brief Property Updates

- Davis
 - John reported that they submitted a sketch plan a few months ago. It features 36 townhomes with an assisted living facility. The plan also has a buffer along KYAL and Kimberton Park. The must submit a preliminary plan as the next step.
- Steimer
 - No update.
- Hart
 - No update. Michelle will check with Kisha to see if a building plan has been submitted.
- Benyo
 - No update.
- Crouse
 - Michelle reported that the archaeological study is now complete. They found over 400 prehistoric artifacts (older than 5,000 years) on the property, limiting uses in some areas. This was the final documentation needed for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, we should find out soon if the grant will be awarded.
- DeMutis
 - Rusty spoke with Manny about protecting the property and other undeveloped lots on Emmanuel Blvd. They will continue discussions.
- Mattiola
 - John began to look into the owners, he will connect with Patrick about reaching out.

Margaret asked if we used official maps. John said that the Planning Commission uses them i.e. the Zoning Map and that the Board of Supervisors could declare something an official map. She asked if making the Open Space Map an official map could benefit the committee, will continue to discuss.

Phil re-introduced himself and stated that he is interested in the vacancy position. The Committee will vote at the next meeting.

Public Comment

None.

Adjourned at 7:53pm.