

**East Pikeland Township  
Open Space Committee**

**Meeting Minutes  
July 16, 2019**

Meeting called to order at 7:01pm.

Present: Rusty Strauss, Lori Beck, Betsy Burns, John Schott, & Patrick Jennings

Absent: Stock Illoway, Emily Gorge, Lori Howell, & Margaret Hodgkiss-Lilly

Guests: Jonathan Gayl

Staff: Michelle Rubin

Minutes from the May meeting were approved with no changes.

Michelle reported that the open space fund is \$578,466.64. The grant funds from Chester County have not been distributed yet but will go into the fund once they are.

**New Business**

1. Bonnie Brae Rd. Property Discussion

- Rusty reported that the realtor for 2 Bonnie Brae Rd. reached out to him about the Open Space Committee's interest in the property. Rusty explained that because there are buildings and a utility easement on most of the property, the Supervisors will probably not be interested in owning it. John also pointed out that there is no sewer capacity and so the probability that the land will actually be developed any time soon is slim. Rusty will reach out to the realtor and explain that while the committee isn't interested in buying the property outright, we would consider buying the development rights.

**Old Business**

1. Open Space Database

- Rusty proposed that the committee reviews 4 properties for every meeting to get new volunteers familiar with the properties on the interest list. Members will be encouraged to look at the property files on Dropbox and familiarize themselves with the properties before the meeting and then come ready to discuss them.
- Michelle will add new version of the database to the DropBox along with new property files and the new committee member packet.

2. Brief Property Updates

- Kolb
  - No updates
- Graham
  - Michelle reported that the Township lawyer didn't approve of the document given to the Township by French & Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust because it was about pesticides, which are not the issue on this property. The Supervisors will discuss their options and confer with the land trust.
- Davis
  - No updates
- Steimer
  - No updates.
- Dixon

- No updates.
- Hart
  - No updates
- Benyo
  - No updates

### **Public Comment**

- Committee members discussed topics they would be interested in learning more about from how to talk with property owners, what a 319 is vs an ag easement, various options for preservation etc. Michelle suggested having a small speaker series where a knowledgeable person/committee member would do a short presentation at meetings and discuss different topics.

Adjourned at 7:50pm.