

**East Pikeland Township
Open Space Committee**

**Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2017**

Meeting called to order by Rusty Strauss, chair, at 6:59pm

Present: John Schott, Stock Illoway, Lori Beck, Rusty Strauss, Marilyn Randolph

Absent: Kersten Appler & Martin Sheehan

Guests: Jonathan Gayle, Michelle Rubin (EP Liaison), Betsy Burns

Minutes from September 2017 meeting were approved. The only edit was that Betsy Burns was added as a guest.

The budget was reviewed. It was announced that there is \$4.4M in the fund.

New Business:

- New Member: Elizabeth (Betsy) Burns would like to be on the Open Space Committee.
 - Betsy has lived in the Township since '84, and wants to preserve and save land. She is a landscape designer with a degree in landscape architecture.
 - Stock moved to recommend Betsy's appointment to the Board of Supervisors at their November meeting, Lori seconded.
- Stock reported on OSC activity at the October Board of Supervisors Meeting. His report included the committee's priority properties, receiving the Woodbridge property, a new property database, and the upcoming joint meeting with Park and Recreation.

Old Business

- Last month Jonathan Gayle presented a proposal for the Kimberton Performing and Visual Arts Center on tax parcel # 26-2-200, currently owned by Carole Frederick.
 - It was reiterated that this project was a wonderful concept, but it did not belong with Open Space. As such, there was no reason to do a site visit or a priority grid for the property.
 - The committee asked Gayl what he thought the appraisal might be, and he said he wasn't sure. Stock explained that the property would not have a high appraisal value because there isn't a lot of development potential, so OSC funds wouldn't go far.
 - The committee suggested that if Gayl wanted to move forward he should take his proposal directly to the township supervisors.

- Fire Company Meeting: Representatives from the OSC and the Fire Company met to discuss ways in which they could work together to preserve open space that would help the Fire Co. maintain a class A status.
 - The differences between a Class A and B fair are approximately 10k which isn't as bad as the OSC thought
 - The Fire Co. will set up a meeting with the Steimers about their property. If we don't hear from them soon the OSC will contact the Steimers.
 - Stock will talk to the Davises to figure out how much their appraisal is
 - John will talk to Fire Co. and KYAL to see if they would be able to buy land and then the Township would buy the development rights
 - Next steps:
 - 1. Find out what the Davis's current appraisal is—could we split the difference?
 - 2. Ask the appraiser to figure out the value of 2 prime lots and offer to buy them from the Davises
 - 3. Ask the Davises if we could buy an easement/development rights to those two lots
 - 4. Could ask the Fire Co. to buy the land and then the Township would buy the easement from them
- Brief property updates:
 - Crouse/Pikeland Glenn: Michelle reported that the owners may be open to re-considering the land as open space due to the length of litigation they have gone through. The representative was going to take the question back to the stockholders and see what their thoughts were. OSC interested in going on a site visit, preferably before next month's meeting. Michelle will get permission to go on property and a map.
 - Piazza: Stock reported that there was a recent meeting to discuss developing a portion/all of the property and leaving a portion as open space for trails. Stock doesn't think this plan is going to go far
 - Wagner: Rusty talked to the attorney and was going to get contact info for the estate, will try to reach out again.
 - Waterworld: Committee needs to follow up again. Rusty sent Michelle contact info
- Meeting with Park and Rec. Board
 - Thursday at 7pm, need a few OSC members to be there
 - OSC wants to discuss ideas with P&R and encourage them to set priorities. What connections can we make to the trail systems and what does OSC need to acquire? Create a plan that we can all work on together.
 - OSC can work with them to go after right of ways to connect trails
 - Stock suggested a meeting with surrounding Townships and boroughs to get everyone to work together on regional trail plans
 - Marilyn thinks that everyone supports a trail system, there just isn't a coordinator who's working to keep everyone on the same page

With no further business, Stock moved and John seconded the adjournment of the meeting at 8:12pm.

Next Meeting November 21, 2017.