Salford Township Open Space Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2017

Present:	Jeanine Harrell, Melody Leithold, Fred Moyer (Park Board), Barb McMonagle
Absent:	Peter Muir, Tim Clemens (Finance), John Feldi
Other:	

I. Announcements

None.

II. Discussion

1. Meeting started at 7:30 p.m.
2. The meeting minutes from 9/20/16 &11/15/16 were approved.
3. The Open Space Committee reviewed its priority list of properties under consideration for easements or acquisition and additional potential properties.
4. Mosher Farm (Hay) – Margie Mosher has applied to the Montgomery County Farm Preservation Program for 2016 to preserve her 38 acre property on Fretz Rd. It ranked in the top 5 farms by the Farm Board last year. Margie was approached by a neighbor to sell a strip of land for an access easement to his property. This will delay but not prevent the preservation of this farm.
5. Webb Farm – Billy is planning to farm the property and has started clearing land. The family still has an interest in preserving their farm. The property is now in Act 319.
6. WB 5 acres – Tylersport Community Park – Improvements are moving forward – the exercise equipment is installed. The township was awarded a grant for $40,000 from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) for a pavilion, walking trail, parking lot, benches and more.
7. Bamboo update: Invasive bamboo in the area of the Ridge Valley Creek at Hausman Road was treated last year. Peter and Melody will continue to monitor for bamboo in this area.
8. Multi-Regional Stewardship & Greenway Plan – MCPC & Natural Lands Trust (NLT) will be spearheading the various aspects of this project. They have started gathering information. MCPC will be working on the greenway portion of the grant. A greenway plan will help identify important features of a property to protect during the land development process. In Salford, our Morwood Road Natural Area and Copper Mine Creek Preserve will be studied in the spring and plans created.
9. NLT's Fulshaw Craeg Preserve - NLT is also working on a Stewardship and Trail Plan for Fulshaw Craeg Preserve. This project has started. The first meeting was held by Kelsey Boyd and Tom Kershner (Fulshaw Craeg Preserve Manager). Melody spoke about the neighborhood watch and current issues at the preserve. She also offered to show them the existing trails in this area.
10. Whites Mill Preserve – The Park Board is looking into a floating dock to take traffic off the dam head.
11. King Road Bridge – At a recent BOS meeting, a representative from Montgomery County came to discuss the township's options for the future of the bridge.
12. Moyer Road Bridge – There is no plan to repair the bridge at this time.

13. Montgomery County Open Space Program – Barb met Scott Berman of Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association who is working on a project in hopes of reviving the Montgomery County Open Space Program.
14. Conservation Subdivision Ordinances (Growing Greener). This is another way to preserve open space. The ordinance would require the developer to preserve at least 50% of the property as open space, at no cost to the township, during the land development process. The developer is permitted to build the same number of homes as they would have been able to with a conventional build out yield. This could benefit Salford if implemented. We will continue to discuss this at our OS meetings. Barb has discussed it at the Planning Commission meetings also.
15. Meeting adjourned 8:15 p.m.