Salford Township Open Space Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2016

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

I. Announcements

None.

II. Discussion

1. Meeting started at 7:30 p.m.
2. The meeting minutes from 11/17/15 were approved.
3. The Open Space Committee reviewed an updated priority list of properties under consideration for easements or acquisition and additional potential properties.
4. Moyer/Henhuber Farm – Philip Moyer submitted an application to the Montgomery County Farm Preservation Program for 2015. Philip Moyer has accepted the Montgomery County offer to permanently preserve the farm.
5. Mosher Farm #3 – Margie Mosher has applied to the Montgomery County Farm Preservation Program for 2016 to preserve her 38 acre property on Fretz Rd.
6. 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.
7. WB 5 acres – Tylersport Community Park – Improvements planned for 2016 include completion of the basketball court, picnic pavilion, moving the playground equipment from the park behind the township building and a walking path.
8. We discussed the bamboo growing in the area of the Ridge Valley Creek as it crosses Hausman Road. Peter is working in this.
9. Multi-Regional Stewardship & Greenway Plan – MCPC & Natural Lands Trust will be spearheading the various aspects of this project. They have started gathering information. Matt Schelly, our community planner from MCPC, will be working on the greenway portion of the grant. A greenway plan will help identify important features of a property during the land development process.
10. Whites Mill Preserve – Fishing off the dam head is causing it to break down. The Park Board is looking into a floating pier. Fred reported that someone turfed the parking lot side of Whites Mill Preserve. The recently installed bollards on the dam side of Whites Mill Rd appear to be working to keep people from parking there. Is it time for a camera at Whites Mill?
11. King Road Bridge – Montgomery County still hasn't finalized plans to repair this bridge but is working up an esthetically pleasing bridge to complement the character of the area. This will be presented at a future Board of Supervisors meeting. We are still waiting.
12. Moyer Road Bridge – There is no plan to repair the bridge at this time.
13. Conservation Subdivision Ordinances (Growing Greener). This is another way to preserve open space. The ordinances 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. Barb spoke about the 4 step process and how it could be a good fit for Salford. She will send more detailed information to the group. This could benefit Salford if implemented. We will continue to discuss this at our OS meetings. Barb has begun discussing it at the Planning Commission meetings also.

14. Carl Barndt Farm – A recent article in the Reporter on January 14, 2016 mentioned the preservation of the Carl Barndt Farm, 66 acres in Salford Township completed in 2015.
15. Conservation Easement Tax Incentive – In December 2015, Congress passed a permanent tax incentive for landowners who donate all or part of the value of a conservation easement. This incentive had been temporary and expired December 31, 2014. It is retroactive to January 1, 2015.
16. Meeting adjourned.