Salford Township Open Space Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes

March 15, 2016

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

I. Announcements

None.

II. Discussion

1. Meeting started at 7:30 p.m.
2. The meeting minutes from 1/19/16 were approved.
3. The Open Space Committee reviewed the priority list of properties under consideration for easements or acquisition and additional potential properties.
4. Halteman Property - Barb explained that the Halteman family is not going to preserve their property this year.
5. 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.
6. 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. It has ranked in the top 5 farms by the Farm Board this year.
7. 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.
8. WB 5 acres – Tylersport Community Park – The Park Board is working with Matt Schelly from Montgomery County Planning Commission (MCPC) to apply for a Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Grant for future improvements to the park. The application deadline is in April.
9. Bamboo update: Invasive bamboo is growing in the area of the Ridge Valley Creek as it crosses Hausman Road. Peter has spoken with the current owner.
10. 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. No update.
11. Whites Mill Preserve – Fishing off the dam head is causing it to further break down. The Park Board is looking into a floating pier.
12. 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. Ken Starr is no longer with Montgomery County.
13. Moyer Road Bridge – There is no plan to repair the bridge at this time.

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 begun discussing it at the Planning Commission meetings also.
15. Jeanine reported that people continue to be camping, using drugs and climbing power lines at Natural Lands Trust's Fulshaw Craeg Preserve. She has contacted Tom Kershner, Fulshaw Craeg Preserve manager, who advised residents to call the State Police.
16. Meeting adjourned 9:15 p.m.