Salford Township Open Space Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

January 18, 2022

Present:	Melody Leithold, Tim Clemens (Finance Committee) Barb McMonagle, John Feldi, Fred Moyer (Park Board
Absent:	None
Guests:	Greg Bankos, Plumstead Township Supervisor

I. Announcements

None

II. Discussion

1. The meeting started at 7:30 pm at the township building.
2. We all welcomed Greg Bankos a newly appointed Plumstead Township Supervisor. Barb gave a summary of what the Open Space Committee discusses every other month. Barb will follow up and send Greg some information such as Saving Land Saves $; Buy the Best, Zone the Rest; etc.
3. Reorganization for 2022 - Chair: Barbara McMonagle, Vice Chair: Fred Moyer, Secretary: Melody Leithold was approved 5-0.
4. The Meeting minutes from November 16, 2021 were reviewed and approved.
5. The Open Space Committee reviewed its priority list of properties under consideration for easements or acquisition and additional potential properties. Barb has been speaking to Jake Kratz at Natural Lands (NL) about the Clemens Property 7.3 acres at Hausman Rd. & Camp Green Lane Rd. NL is moving forward with purchasing this property to add to their Fulshaw Craeg Preserve. NL has ordered an appraisal. Barb will add this property to our priority list.
6. Lutchendorf property – 86.18 acres at Allentown and County Line Rds is now preserved. Settlement took place last week thru the Montgomery County Farm Preservation Program..
7. Myers property – 27.37 acres on Camp Green Lane Rd. Jim and Sue Myers are accepting the Montgomery County Farm Board offer to preserve their farm. No update.
8. WB 5 acres – Tylersport Community Park – The Park Board's wish list includes adding a Pickleball Court and Bocce Ball. A sign is in the works. The PB is looking into ground tire mulch vs wood mulch for the playground.
9. Whites Mill Preserve –
   1) Whites Mill Dam – The dam is still eroding.
   2) Floating Dock System for Whites Mill Pond – A floating dock system similar to the one at Skymount Lake in Marlborough Township is moving forward. An application for the Schuylkill Highlands Mini-Grant has been submitted. The grant could cover 50% of the cost. The PB Reserve account has funds which could cover the remaining 50% match. The Open Space Committee supports this project.
10. King Road Bridge – The bridge is still closed. Hurricane Ida made a mess, extensively damaging the road deck and more with the creek water raging high over the bridge. The county is to do the repairs, then the township will take ownership. Nothing has started. No update.
11. Hausman Road Bridge – Hurricane Ida did substantial damage to the bridge. The bridge is now closed. A prefab bridge appears to be the most economical option to replace the bridge on Hausman Rd. Its replacement cost will be around $300,000 and just went out to bid. Tim mentioned there may be funds coming to the township from the Infrastructure Bill which could be a source of funding for the bridge replacement.

12. Invasive vegetation – Mark Frickman (formerly Weibel property) on Hausman Rd. at the Ridge Valley Creek is addressing the bamboo on his property with an herbicide and removing roots. The group noted there are also other large areas of bamboo on the upper part of Dietz Mill Rd. and Ridge Rd.
13. Meeting adjourned 8:34 pm.

Next meeting March 15, 2022 at 7:30 at the township building.