Salford Township Open Space Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

January 27, 2023

Present:	John Feldi, Tim Clemens (Finance Committee), Melody Leithold, Barb McMonagle
Absent:	Fred Moyer
Guests:	Jim Myers, Board of Supervisors

I. Announcements,

Jim and Sue Myers will be having a Maple Open House at their Ridge Valley Farm on Camp Green Lane Road on March 18th & 19th. They will be demonstrating how maple syrup is made. Maple syrup products will be for sale as well.

II. Discussion

1. The meeting started at 7:30 pm at the township building.
2. The meeting minutes from July 19, 2022 and September 20, 2022 were approved.
3. The Open Space Committee reviewed its priority list of properties under consideration for easements or acquisition and additional potential properties.
4. Clemens Property – 7.3 acres located at Hausman Rd. & Camp Green Lane Rd. Natural Lands now has an agreement of sale for $110,000 and have received grants from Montgomery County and DCNR. Salford Township has provided a Letter of Support and a commitment to contribute $20,000 to the conservation of this property. The Montgomery County Open Space Board made a recommendation to the Montgomery County Commissioners at their meeting on March 31, 2022. The Commissioners approved $52,400 in early April 2022 contingent upon the balance of funding being received from DCNR. The DCNR grant application for $60,000 has been approved and this is the final funding source needed to complete the acquisition. Natural Lands will coordinate completing the requirements. Settlement is expected by March 31, 2023.
5. Myers property – 27.37 acres on Camp Green Lane Rd. Jim Myers explained why they withdrew their application from the Montgomery County Farm Board to preserve their farm.
6. WB 5 acres – Tylersport Community Park – Water and electric are being installed at the pole building.
7. Whites Mill Preserve –
   1) Whites Mill Dam – The township has made some repairs to the dam. Boulders were added to the pond side, reinforced and the dam area was graded. The fire company can now access the pond and fishing off the boulders is possible.
   2) Floating Dock System for Whites Mill Pond – A floating dock system like the one at Skymount Lake in Marlborough Township is planned. An application for the Schuylkill Highlands Mini-Grant was denied. The Park Board is looking at other options/grants. The Open Space Committee supports this project. No update.
8. King Road Bridge – The bridge is still closed. Montgomery County put up a barrier. They have not responded to calls from the township.
9. Invasive vegetation – No update
10. Emerald Ash Borer – The ash borers have been very active in the township. There are a lot of dead trees. The utility companies have been trimming the tops of the trees back and leaving tall stumps.
11. We Conserve PA (formerly Pennsylvania Land Trust Association (PALTA)) will be having their Annual Conference in Reading this year from April 24th to April 26th. Barb will email everyone information about the conference.
12. Meeting adjourned 8:40 pm.

Next meeting March 21, 2023 at 7:30 at the township building.