Salford Township Open Space Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2023

Present:	John Feldi, Melody Leithold Tim Clemens (Finance Committee), Barb McMonagle
Absent:	Fred Moyer
Guests:	None

I. Announcements,

II. Discussion

1. The meeting started at 7:32 pm at the township building.
2. The meeting minutes from January 17, 2023 and March 21, 2023 were approved.
3. The Open Space Committee reviewed its priority list of properties under consideration for easements or acquisition and additional potential properties.
4. Montgomery County FPP Annual Summary 2022 – Barb shared the summary which shows 2 properties in Salford were preserved in 2022 - Luchendorf 76 acres and Barndt 10 acres. Since the program began in 1989 a total of $118,389,507 has been spent by Montgomery County towards the Montgomery County Farmland Preservation Program.
5. Clemens Property – Settlement on the Clemens property took place on March 31st - 7.3 acres located at Hausman Rd. & Camp Green Lane Rd. Funding for this purchase by Natural Lands consists of grants from Montgomery County, DCNR, and a donation from Salford Township. This property is now an addition to Natural Lands Fulshaw Craeg Preserve.
6. King Road Bridge – The bridge is still closed. Montgomery County put up a barrier. The Montgomery County Roads & Bridges has not responded to calls from the township.- No new update.
7. WB 5 acres – Tylersport Community Park – No update.
8. Whites Mill Preserve –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. A Floating Dock System is no longer being planned for Whites Mill Pond – Boulders as part of the dam repair will prohibit having the floating dock where it was going to be located.
9. Invasive vegetation – Two new invasives related to bamboo have been spotted along Hill Road.
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. Barb shared information about the Upper Salford Trail Summit on May 2, 2023. She finally met Bill Hartman & Ellen Miramontes from Montgomery County in person. The summit was well attended. Participants listened to guest speakers and shared possible trail links on maps provided.
12. The Indian Valley Regional Planning Commission (Salford is part of this) has started working on the Indian Valley Comprehensive Plan Update. There is a survey online to gauge the needs and preferences on transportation, housing, recreation, open space, trails, etc. throughout the region. The survey can be found at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/IndianValleyRPC
13. The Open Space committee discussed uses for the property at Allentown Road & Ridge Road with the stone arch ramp barn. In summary, the township could 1) Sell it; 2) Do nothing – not costing anything to hold it for possible future use; 3) Leave the foundation and rebuild it to use as a usable space; or 4) Possible location for future township building.
14. Meeting adjourned 8:35 pm.

Next meeting July 18, 2023 at 7:30 at the township building.