

Open Space Advisory Board Minutes
March 24, 2021

- I. **Call to Order.** The Meeting was called to Order at 7:00 PM. Present were Members Janet Pearson, Chairperson, Jason Albert, Laura Bocko, Nick Graziano and David Friedman. Ed Nelson, Township Manager, David Due, BOS, Justin Coyle Township Engineer, Stavros Barbounis from the Park and Rec Board, and Judy Henckle from the Public.
- II. **Courtesy of the Floor.** None.
- III. **Agenda/Minutes.** Dave Friedman made a motion, 2nd by Laura Bocko to accept the Minutes from the February 2021 Meeting. Motion passed. Laura Bocko made a Motion 2nd by Dave Friedman to accept the amended Agenda to include commentary from the Park and Rec Board Chairman under New Business. Motion passed.
- IV. **Old Business.** The Deeds are filed however the approved maps need to be reviewed and approved by the LVPC.

The Collura Property. Tabled until next month.

Fund Balance. No Report from Ed Nelson. A question arose over the use of the Open Space money. According to Solicitor Karasek, cannot go into the account like a bank. Ed Nelson can do an emergency withdrawal, however if a property comes up the money must be returned. The BOS must go through a process of voting on it. But there is no plan to do it. A further question was asked if it is "borrowed" how is it replenished if there is a need to "borrow" it? Ed Nelson replied it is controlled by the Board. Further investigation will be needed to assure the legality for all parties involved.

Preserve Signage Project: Ed Nelson has a Boy Scout that needs an Eagle Scout project. The Scout has an idea of what he wanted to do.

Heritage Conservancy Contract. Contract signed and in place. The County will be giving the Conservancy a list of potential properties to preserve.

25% of the Maintenance Balance. It was decided to formally ask Solicitor Karasek what the OSAB can do and what are the restrictions. Janet Pearson made a Motion, 2nd by Nick Graziano to formally ask Mr. Karasek what the legalities of using the stipulated 25% Maintenance Fee from Open Space funds. Motion passed.

Ziegenfus Property. Waiting on County.

- V. **New Business:** Justin Coyle, Township Engineer, gave an informative presentation with pictures and video on creating a Master Plan for The Preserve. He suggested the following order of progress: Master Plan, the Wetlands delineation, the Forestry Survey, and then work on infrastructure such as trails and informational signage. It was discussed having 2 members of the OSAB review the photos come up with ideas, then combine all ideas

together to continue work. Nick Graziano said the Board should walk the property before brainstorming. A tentative walk will be scheduled at 9:00 AM on April 24.

Stavros Barbounis, Chairperson of the Park and Rec Board, brought up a concern there is a conflicting duties between the OSAB and the Park Board. According to the organizational by-laws of the Park Board it looks as though they should oversee the OSAB and have access to the Open Space funding. Ed Nelson suggested to get both Boards information and purposes to him and he will submit to Solicitor Karasek and get an agreement on operating procedures or how to correct it.

OSAB Goals for 2021 have been submitted to Mr. Pinter.

- VI. Public Comment.** Judy Henckle wanted to remind everyone that the Nature Conservancy lands across from the Preserve are a separate area and are to be left alone.
- VII. Adjournment.** David Friedman made a Motion, 2nd by Laura Bocko to adjourn until our next meeting on April 28, 2021. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.