

BYRAM TWP. OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE MINUTES, AUGUST 13, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Members present: Chairman Ray Bonker, Scott Olson, Joe Sabatini, Eric Duch (7:44pm), John Morytko and Andy Kimm. Ron Farr (8:00pm via phone), Ben Spinelli, Frank Pinto, Genevieve Tarino and Cindy Church were also in attendance.

Discussion on Historic Preservation with Frank Gonzalez – Byram Historical Society - Frank is looking to get funding from the Open Space Committee to help with the preservation of historic sites in Byram Township. In particular he is interested in seeing the cemetery fixed up. Frank reached out to the Sussex County Historical Society and got feedback and direction from them on how to go about fixing up the cemetery. He is looking to get help from them with restoring the stones. Frank would also like to see if they can get an easement from the well company so the public can access the cemetery. The Historical Society is also concerned about the paper and cloth artifacts that are being kept in the school house, as the school house does not have climate controls. Frank would like to see if the Open Space Committee could help with funding that as well. Ray asked about the funding that the Byram Historical Society receives, Frank said that they only receive \$1000.00 from the Township and the rest is just donations and membership, which are not much. Ray is asking Frank to provide the Open Space Committee with a “Step by Step” list of priorities along with an approximate cost associated with each task. Joe suggested that the Open Space provide a donation out of the Open Space Trust account and have the Historical Society report back annually with their accomplishments. Frank will put together the list as requested by Ray.

Project Management:

Update from Ron Farr

- a. **ROSI** – Ben stated that the ROSI has been distributed and Ron Farr was happy with it.
- b. **GPS on all ATV trails** – Not done yet. – Should be done by 8/31/18
- c. **Boundary Marking** – Ron has marked trees at stand #12 on Cranberry Overlook, he also went out to look for the trees that were planted several years ago. Could not find any of them. There is still a section of Glenside Woods that needs to be marked. Should be done by 8/31/18
- d. **Safety Zone Signs** - Ron is working on the Safety Zone signs. Should be done by 8/31/18
- e. **Evaluation of Ash Trees** – Ron walked through Johnson and Cranberry Overlook. He has found several Ash trees in these locations. He will have them all marked and provide a volume. This will be readdressed at the October meeting.

- f. **2019 Proposed Activities** – The Open Space Committee reviewed the proposal submitted by Ron. Ron has marked the Briar Ridge North properties as high priority. Ray believes that the highest priority should be on updating the Stewardship Plan and the Deer Hunting Signage.

Activities Since Last OS Meeting

- a. Submittal of Scope of Services by Greener by Design - The Open Space Committee reviewed the Scope of Service for 2019 that was submitted by Greener by Design. Joe is asking for a follow up meeting with Ben along with a more detailed write up / time line with funding sources before submitting it to the Council.

Minutes – Motion by Scott Olson, second by Joe Sabatini to adopt the regular and closed session minutes of June 11, 2018.

Open Space Financial Report – Joe reported that there is \$366,787 in the local open space trust fund. In the reserve for debt service is \$302,148. The outstanding Debt Service balance is \$478,125. Ben will need to provide the PIG balance.

Project Management: Tamarack Park

- a. **Irrigation** - Byram Township did not get the grant. Cory will make a recommendation to award JML to put in the irrigation system.
- b. **Paving** - Parking will be paved by Tilcon sometime after Labor Day.

Correspondence and Updates

- a. **Sussex County Planning Board 6/4/18 Meeting Minutes** – in the minutes they reported on a FLAP Grant application – This grant will be used to build a multi-use rail trail.

Open to the Public: No comments

Adjourn: 10:06 p.m. Motion by Joe Sabatini, second by Scott Olson to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.