

OPEN SPACE & RECREATION BOARD
July 11, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Board members present were Chairwoman Sue Thompson, Jill Ludy, Greg Churach and Dennis Elliott. Ralph Freed was absent. Also present were Allan Kratz and Jack Layne, Township Manager.

1. Call to Order

Chairwoman Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Ms. Ludy moved that the May 9, 2012 meeting minutes be approved as submitted. Mr. Elliott seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

3. Public Comment

Mr. Kratz expressed his concern that a number of people were walking onto his properties that are located adjacent to the Sprogels Run Pedestrian Walking Trail. There was extensive discussion by the Board regarding whether signs and fencing should be installed on Township open space land that is located adjacent to Mr. Kratz's properties. Mr. Churach made a motion recommending that the Township place signage designating the border-line between Mr. Kratz's and Township properties at Sunset Park. The motion was seconded by Mr. Elliott. The motion was approved. Ms. Ludy also made a motion recommending that the Township investigate the cost of providing fencing (e.g., split rail, rolled fencing, etc.) along Mr. Kratz's properties abutting Township open space land, e.g., Sunset Park Pedestrian Trail, Mocharniuk Meadows and the Grimm property. The motion was seconded by Mr. Churach. The motion was approved.

Mr. Elliott informed Mr. Kratz that he and others had submitted recommendations to the State Legislature to allow for the use of open space acquisition funding for open space land improvement and maintenance.

Mr. Elliott suggested that the proposed signage to be located along Mr. Kratz's property should state "Private Property – No Trespassing".

4. Reports

- Ms. Ludy noted that a relative of hers had stated that Sussell Park used to host a number of well-known country and western singers in the past. Mr. Elliott confirmed that this did in fact occur.
- Mr. Churach stated that he had picked up trash last week along Snyder Road and two days later he found an empty case of beer cans in the same area.
- Mr. Churach stated that the Township should provide "No Littering" signs throughout the Township and establish a fine of between \$300 to \$500 for those convicted of littering in the Township. Mr. Churach

then made a motion recommending that the Township place “No Littering” signs at strategic locations in the Township. Mr. Elliott seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

5. Old Business

A. Community Day

Ms. Ludy stated that she had contacted the Community Band and that they would perform from 1:00 P.M. until 2:00 P.M. on Community Day. Chairwoman Thompson stated that some of the music that may be provided might be religious but that it would be limited. Chairwoman Thompson stated that the Petting Zoo would not be available but that clowns would be. She also stated that the Fire Company’s Auxiliary would be selling food and that Hopewell was requested to coordinate food distribution/selling efforts with them. Chairwoman Thompson noted that a “Dunk Tank” would be provided and that each chairperson of each Township committee/board would be asked to sit in the “Dunk Tank”. Mr. Ludy stated that they would be requesting volunteers for Face Painting. Chairwoman Thompson stated that the Township assist in efforts to provide a Police Canine Dog presentation and a helicopter. She added that there would be participation by the Christian Motorcycle Association at this event. It was noted that Chairwoman Thompson and Ms. Ludy would be meeting with Harold and Diane Fillman regarding Community Day on July 23rd.

B. Park Maintenance

It was noted that the recycling trash containers at Kulp Field had not been emptied on a consistent basis because baseball teams and fans were not placing the recycling items into the proper recycling dumpster. Chairwoman Thompson stated that she had forwarded an email to team representatives requesting that they dispose of recycled items and trash properly.

C. Open Space Update

The Board reviewed the most recent open space acquisition report listing that was provided to them by Mr. Layne.

6. New Business

- The Board reviewed the photographs showing the Stepping Stones that have been installed for crossing stream areas. Ms. Ludy then made a motion that the Township investigate the cost of installing these Stepping Stones in designated areas in the Township trail areas. Mr. Churach seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
- Chairwoman Thompson emphasized that the Township must remain cognizant of protecting its riparian buffers.

- Ms. Ludy inquired as to the status of the efforts to remove the algae from the Township's pond areas. Mr. Layne reported that the Public Works Department had contacted a contractor regarding this matter.
- Mr. Churach requested that the Township further review cutting a swale between the ponds at Sunset Park.

7. Adjournment

Mr. Elliott moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:52 P.M. Ms. Ludy seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Next meeting scheduled for 7:00 P.M. on Wednesday, August 8, 2012