

**Minutes of the Open Space Park and Recreation Board  
Upper Pottsgrove Township**

**January 13, 2015**

A meeting of the Open Space Park and Recreation Board was held on Tuesday, January 13, 2015, at the Upper Pottsgrove Township Administrative Offices; 1409 Farmington Avenue. Those present were Matt Dallas, Charles Note, Dennis Elliott, Chris Delp and Nancy Toothaker. Also present were Township Manager Carol R. Lewis, Commissioner Elwood Taylor, Ken Hamilton and Jeffery Hartung. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Matt Dallas.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - Those present pledged allegiance to the flag.

**EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT** – Jeffery Hartung, a life scout from troop 545 is working on his Eagle Scout project. He plans to build a 10 x 12 shed for the Althouse Arboretum. He has all of his signature except one. He expects to start the project in April or May. They are getting a kit from Lowes along with a floor kit. He has lined up scout mates and friends from school to help with the project. He was advised he will need to get a building permit. The Board was in favor of the project and wished him well.

**OPEN SPACE RECREATION ORDINANCE** - The Board discussed what to allow and what not to allow and in which parks. They agreed that dogs would be allowed but that they must be leashed and in control and their waste must be picked up. No hunting or trapping was to be allowed at this time. A scheduled hunt may be necessary in the future based on the deer population and destruction to the open space. All fishing will be catch and release. Hours will be dawn to dusk. No alcoholic beverages or motorized vehicles will be allowed. C. Lewis will put together a draft ordinance for the board to consider at their next meeting.

**SAVE ALLIANCE UPDATE** – K. Hamilton reported that over a dozen students helped with the tree recycling event. He asked permission to install a two sided changeable sign under the Althouse Arboretum Sign. It would have four lines and be lockable. It would not be lit but would have solar powered lights. It would be paid for from donations through the foundation. Motion by C. Note second by D. Elliot and unanimously carried to approve the sign. The Board discussed ways to help designate the parking area as public parking for trail use. E. Taylor pointed out that when they do the road crossing, it will include signage which could include “Trail Parking Ahead” signs.

K. Hamilton then advised the Board that he is looking to have a grand opening in the fall if enough gets done. They are also participating in the Greater Pottstown Challenge which gives them until March 20, 2015 to raise \$5,000. If they do the Greater Pottstown Foundation will match it with another \$5,000 for special summer programs for at-risk and low income children at the Arboretum. The money will pay for transportation, program costs, and provide scholarships for local student interns to run the programs.

The grant check was received so they can pave the entrance to the Arboretum, two handicap spots and install the raised gardens. The work will be done in the spring. When Sprogels Run Trail is complete, the Arboretum would like to organize a “run”. Lastly, K. Hamilton advised the Board that they have a resident that wants to donate a children’s playhouse. It will be moved and reassembled by volunteers.

**SNYDER ROAD TRAIL** – Motion by C. Note second by D. Elliot and unanimously carried to recommend to the Board of Commissioners that they authorize the preparation and bidding of the

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Dallas portion of the Snyder Trail.

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**HUNTING ON OPEN SPACE** – C. Note provided some ideas for signs. The Board wants the signs to be welcoming but still have the needed information. They discussed having separate No Hunting signs versus including that into one sign. It was decided to recommend to the BOC a sign to read:

WELCOME TO  
Upper Pottsgrove Township  
Parks and Open Space  
Governed by Ordinance xyz123

C. Lewis will get some price estimates and suggestions regarding material.

**ATHLETIC FIELDS** – The Board reviewed and discussed the draft athletic field use contracts. Currently there is nothing regarding a deposit. It was decided to leave this out for now and see if things improve with the Township doing the mowing and overseeing activities closer.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – k. Hamilton requested that a dog bag dispenser be installed near the Arboretum. He also asked if the Rules sign could be installed.

**ADJOURNMENT** – A motion by N. Toothaker seconded by C. Delp and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

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Carol R. Lewis, Township Manager