

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

January 12, 2017

A meeting of the Open Space Park and Recreation Board was held on Thursday, January 12, 2017, at the Upper Pottsgrove Township Administrative Offices; 1409 Farmington Avenue. Those present were Dennis Elliot, Chuck Note, Michelle Reddick and Nancy Toothaker. Also present was Carol R. Lewis, Township Manager.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Those present pledged their allegiance to the flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Motion by N. Toothaker, seconded by C. Note and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of November 9, 2016, as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

SAVE ALLIANCE FOUNDATION PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS The SAVE Alliance Foundation is having their Board meeting tonight so a more complete update will be available at the next meeting. They are considering an internship for an environmental student from Montgomery County Community College. They are looking to partner with the Rotary Club to provide a scholarship for that student. The internship would include working with the Green Allies to provide various services.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT UPDATES – All Eagle Scout projects have been completed. The Board of Commissioners will be making a presentation to the Scout Troop who had two of their Scouts do Eagle projects and then the Troop came together to do a Troop Project and construct a bridge over at Hollenbach Park to allow the Cross Country Team to hold meets there. The commendations will be awarded at the February Board of Commissioners meeting.

ARCHERY HUNT 2017 – D. Elliott advised the Board that the count is up to twenty two (22) deer killed on West Moyer Road and Route 100. D. Elliott, C. Note and C. Delp will walk the properties and mark the areas for hunters. They will ask for approval for the hunt at the March Board of Commissioners meeting. The hunt will only be open to Upper Pottsgrove Township residents.

GRANTS – Most of the grant projects have been completed. Chestnut Grove Park will not be closed out until the spring as there are a few items left to do there and Kulp Field is slated to be done in March or April in advance of baseball season.

ATHLETIC FIELDS – The Board requested that the Manager send out the contract for them to review to include the new requirements which are the \$100 deposit to ensure that the fields are cleaned up after events and charging for trash pickup.

MAINTENANCE – H. Miller provided the list of posts to be painted and the paint is available at the Township building. Once the weather gets warmer volunteers can stop in to pick up their supplies.

VETERAN MEMORIAL – The Board decided to have their April meeting at Heather Place Park to decide on an area for the Veterans Memorial. They were in agreement that Heather Place should be nominated for the next Park Contest with the proceeds to be used for the Memorial.

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

January 12, 2017

DEVELOP PLAN FOR PROJECTS AND OPEN SPACE PLAN – At the December Park meeting C. Lewis asked the Regional members what they felt were some underserved recreational opportunities in the region. Responses she received were dog parks, remote car club tracks, disc golf and geocaching.

The Board agreed that they felt dog parks would be well received in the township and discussed different areas to put them in. C. Note felt it was best in a high density area where residents could walk their dogs to the park. Heather Place and Prout Farm were both suggested as possibilities. The Tri-County Trail Study should be received by the end of January. The Board discussed how to implement the connections outlined in the Study. N. Toothaker asked about the signage for the trails and whether, at the minimum, blazes could be put on the trees.

NEW BUSINESS

HIRING OF SEASONAL WORKER – C. Lewis suggested starting in February or March to hire a seasonal worker. She’s going to try partnering with the Montgomery County Community College.

BOARD COMMENTS

C. Note requested more information regarding how much time and what the schedule is for trail maintenance and mowing. They could then look at this information in the spring and decide on areas that didn’t need as much mowing and spend more time on trail maintenance. **N. Toothaker** asked about the amount left in the accounts. They reviewed the Financial Reports for the Open Space Account. **Dennis Elliott** advised the Board that Pennsylvania has the highest rate for Lyme disease in the country. He asked if the County sprayed trails for ticks which they do not. He suggested that they put this in the newsletter urging people to spray for ticks and check themselves afterward. The Board agreed that dates for all of their programs should be included in all of the newsletters.

ADJOURNMENT – Motion by M. Reddick, seconded by C. Note and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol R. Lewis, Township Manager