Upper Pottsgrove Township
Open Space Committee
July 8, 2008 Meeting Minutes

In attendance were Chairman Herbert Miller, Dennis Elliott and Nancy Toothaker. Marie Novack and Peter Dolan were absent. Also in attendance was Jack Layne, Township Manager.

I.   **Call to Order:**   Chairman Miller called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. Chairman Miller expressed his displeasure with the fact that not all of the Committee members were in attendance since there had not been a meeting since February. He added that they would miss out on the discussion regarding significant new open space issues. (Mr. Dolan did inform the Committee via telephone during the meeting that he would attend the next scheduled Open Space Committee meeting.)

II.   **Approval of Meeting Minutes:**
        Ms. Toothaker moved that the February 26, 2008 meeting minutes be approved as submitted. Mr. Elliott seconded this motion. The motion was approved.

        Following a brief discussion by the Committee, there was a consensus that the Board of Commissioners be requested to consider allowing for model airplanes to be flown in the Township's open space parks.

III.   **Reports:**
        No reports were provided.

IV.   **Old Business**
        A. Ad hoc Historical Board update
        1). Update on Historical Marker/Plagues
           Chairman Miller stated that 40 historical marker/plagues had been installed to date. He added that approximately 50 additional historical markers/plagues would be installed. Ms. Toothaker expressed her desire to assist with this installation process.

        B. Acquisition of the Stauffer Property
           Mr. Layne reported that July 11, 2008 was the proposed settlement date for the acquisition of the Stauffer property by the Township.

V.   **New Business**
        A. Township loan for acquiring additional open space
           Mr. Layne reported that Fulton Bank had informed Township staff today that the $2.5 million that the Township proposed to borrow for the purpose of acquiring and preserving additional open space property had been placed in the Township's designated account.

B. Utilization of Open Space Funds

Following discussion regarding the possible use of surplus open space funding that may be available in the future, Mr. Elliott made a motion that surplus Township open space funds that remain after the Township has obtained designated open space properties by utilizing E.I.T. tax revenues that are earmarked for the purpose of acquiring and preserving open space, be utilized for the maintenance of open space. Mr. Elliott further added that if this measure were approved then the Township should never have to borrow funds for the maintenance of open space in the future. Mr. Elliott added that this recommendation be submitted to the Upper Pottsgrove Township Board of Commissioners, the Montgomery County Commissioners and Ms. Dulcie Flaherty, Executive Director for Montgomery County Lands Trust. Ms. Toothaker seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

VI. Executive Session

Ms. Toothaker moved that the Open Space Committee go into Executive Session at 7:42 P.M. to discuss real estate matters. Mr. Elliott seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Mr. Elliott moved that the Committee come out of Executive Session at 8:26 P.M. Ms. Toothaker seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

VII. Additional New Business

A. Montgomery County Green Futures Achievement Awards Program

Following a brief discussion regarding the Township's successful efforts to preserve and save open space, Mr. Elliott moved that the Township submit an application to Montgomery County Lands Trust for the Montgomery County Green Futures Achievement Award Program. Ms. Toothaker seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

B. Land Designation

Mr. Elliott requested that the Township review whether a property located adjacent to his home should be designated as being located in Berks County or Upper Pottsgrove Township.

VII. Adjourn

Ms. Toothaker moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:41 P.M. Mr. Elliott seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Next Meeting 7:00 P.M., Tuesday, August 12, 2008

Submitted by Jack Layne, Township Manager