

A meeting of the Open Space and Recreation Board was held on Tuesday, April 5, 2022. Those present were Greg Churach, Charles Note, Dennis Elliot, Sherry Paup, and Gary Novack. Also present was Township Manager Michelle Reddick and Planning & Zoning Admin; Sherri Griffith. Commissioner Cathy Paretto was present in the audience.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Those assembled pledged allegiance to the flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM March 1, 2022 – Motion by C. Note, second by G. Novack, and unanimously carried to approve the March 1, 2022, minutes as presented.

REPORTS

A. Green Allies ~ Ken Hamilton was present and questioned if everyone gets their newsletter? M. Reddick, S. Griffith & G. Novack stated they do not receive it and asked Ken to add them. G. Churach also suggested posting it onto website. K. Hamilton mentioned the Easter Egg Hunt on the trail that weekend is expecting at least a 100 people to come. The Fire House will have their Easter Egg Hunt later that same day. Youth empowerment Day is April 28 from 9:30 Am to 1:30 Pm. G. Churach asked if it was possible to trim back the trails and he's noticing it getting worse. K. Hamilton said he didn't have the manpower. G. Churach asked if he would be interested if he was able to get volunteers to do it and K. Hamilton said yes. G. Churach asked K. Hamilton if Green Allies was planning to expand into Douglass Township Montgomery County. K. Hamilton said no.

B. PAARC ~ G. Churach reviewed chart which showed the planner spends 10.5% of her time on Upper Pottsgrove issues. G. Churach thanked M. Reddick for straightening out time Tricia spent on grant for them. The events committee is proposing each member choose a task that will improve a park. There would be 7 Saturdays from 9 to 11 am, and a different municipality would receive the help each week. G. Churach proposed the idea of instead of bringing a shovel for a work project how about bring a fishing rod for a fishing derby. All the members on the Open Space Board were all on board with the idea. G. Churach asked Cathy Paretto to inform the PAARC of the idea in the next meeting.

C. Inclusive Playground ~ C. Note Report:

April 2, 2022

RE: Update to Board of Open Space and Recreation of UPT

Meeting 3/9/2022 (7:00pm-9:30pm)

- Review and sign MOU update
- Sock-a-thon presentation from Annique
- Review website areas

Meeting 3/26/2022 (8:00am-12:30pm)

- Complete Tax-Exempt form
- C. Note advises board they cannot use Tricia from PARCC for anything. Discussed miss-communication between P. Ball and Tricia. Set up a meeting between UPT, Chuck and P. Grimm to resolve.

- Discussed Roles and Responsibilities for committee members.
- Conference call 3/30/2022 – 11:00am
- Michelle advised a cease and desist order from UPT on using Tricia from PARCC
- All agreed that Michelle would ask Tricia on her own time to complete PAHWF grant application
- April 1st -PAHWF Grant submitted (\$22,000.00 for CMC)
- Action to UPT-Open Space and Recreation
- Please accept our deepest apologies on the miscommunications between the AG board, UPT and Tricia McCloskey.

Upcoming Target Dates

- Spring 2022 – Payment to CMC for engineering and design, Sign installation
- Fall 2022 – First revision of plans presented to UPT for feedback

Next Meeting: April 13, 2022 @ 7:00

NEW BUSINESS

A. Discuss Proposal to plant soybeans at Prout Farm: Arlen Moser would like to use Prout Farm to plant soybeans & would like to use it for free for the first year to see how it goes. He uses herbicide & fertilizer and is requested to stay 150' from Green Allies organic farm. K. Hamilton expresses concern that he stays far away. The OS&R Board is in agreement to allow.

B. Provided detailed list to PW of repairs needed:

Fox Hill Park ~ DUE 4/1 ~ Remove fallen trees. Volunteers will pick up small sticks.

Sunset Pond ~ DUE 4/8 ~ Notify TWP Manager 1 day before starting work.

Remove logs in pond. Chip all brush if possible. Cut leaning trees that could fall into the pond. Add modified stone at benches. Relocate "Catch and Release" sign from parking area to Sussell Pond.

Kulp Field ~ DUE 4/15 ~ Repair post, landing, & floorboard at press box, repair opening to dugout. Cut wood flush and fill jambs with mortar, remove old cement blocks, remove abandoned cement mixer, repair bleacher, repair vinyl coated fence, repair gate at dugout entrance, patch hole in dugout ceiling. Add stone in area between dugouts.

Cherry Tree Playground ~ DUE 4/22 ~ Replace 6 x 6 ties on high side and add another course on top. Remove old sod. Cut and remove 2 dead trees. Mulch installation here and at other locations to follow by volunteers.

C. Discuss acceptance of bench donated by Lion's Club: Trex Lumber is donating a bench to us from recyclable material. OS&R Board went over colors they can pick from and decided on rainforest canopy.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Status on Gilbertsville Rd Trail Crossing: S. Griffith stated she spoke to the PennDOT rep and was told to work on getting the actual crosswalk replaced and in order before trying to get permit to do the lighting. The rep also suggested to meet onsite with our engineer to go over what we need to do to move forward with this project.

- B. Green Allies First Friday participation:** The OS&R Board agreed there was no reason to participate further.
- C. Discuss Prout Farm Loop Trail:** The OS&R Board suggested holding off until further notice.

CHAIR REPORT –

We have some students from Pottsgrove School helping with picking up sticks at Fox Hill Park.

Upper Pottsgrove is providing mulch for the students to spread at Hollenbach Park and Heather Place Park. The students will be providing the tools.

M. Reddick reported the concern of Pottsgrove Future Falcons Football League using the field and mentioned she spoke to Judge Durkin, and he said they could work out the differences with them.

BOARD COMMENTS – G. Novack asked if we've gotten bids for asphalt on the trails and G. Churach said no not at this time, contingent on grant. G. Novack also mentioned there's leftover asphalt from airport project that we could use, we just would need a place to store it.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

EXECUTIVE SESSION – The Board convened in an Executive Session at 8:00 pm, took no formal action. The Board reconvened at 8:10 pm.

ADJOURNMENT – Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Sherri Griffith
Planning & Zoning Administrator