A meeting of the Open Space and Recreation Board was held on Tuesday, July 11, 2023. Those present were Greg Churach, Chuck Note, Sherry Paup, and Gary Novack. Also present were Chief Fisher, Township Manager Michelle Reddick and Planning & Zoning Administrative Assistant Sherri Griffith. Commissioner Cathy Paretti & Don Read were also present in the audience, along with several residents.

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM April 11, 2023** – Motion by C. Note, second by G. Novack, and unanimously carried to approve the April 11, 2023, minutes as presented.

**REPORTS**

1. **Green Allies** ~ Ken was unable to attend. G. Churach mentioned they started the procedure to build an addition on the front of the farmhouse on Gilbertsville Road and Ken is working with Michelle & Zoning Officer to secure the necessary permits.
2. **PARRC ~**

PARRC has received its non-profit status. We are the PARRC Foundation. We now can take donations and will be open to grants that were only open to non-profit organizations.

With the addition of Washington Township, the 8th township we now serve, PARRC has hired a part-time employee. This was always a part of the funding resolution that the addition of an 8th township there would be a need for a part-time employee.

All eight township members have received their invoice for the last year of the funding resolution. The PARRC board is now in talks about the funding resolution for the years 2024 to 2028. I think that PARRC definitely has proven to be an asset to our community. I would ask this board to make a recommendation to the BOC to continue our participation in this program.

Motion by C. Note, second by S. Paup, and unanimously carried to approve to add item to the agenda.

1. **Chair ~** G. Churach Report:

1. Snyder Road trail and the ADA parking area have been prepared for paving. It is on the contractor’s schedule for August. Low bid was $63,200.

2. The Falcon trail construction project was awarded to Drumheller Construction for $12,300; $200 under budget. It will be installed before school resumes in the fall.

3. The well pump has been installed at Sussell Park. The water level has risen 12” due to using the pump and recent rains.

4. Grading and stoning of the new parking lot at Schwenk road will commence soon. Road millings from the Pottstown airport runway project will be used for the base.

5. I repaired several sections of the Snyder Road trail that suffered washout damage from the recent rainstorm.

6. Our new pond vendor, PondWorks of Gilbertsville, has done a nice job monitoring changing conditions and adjusting treatment as required at Sure Catch Pond.

7. There is not much activity projected for the near future, so meetings will be held as needed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Discuss sign proposal by Tower Health for Prout Farm community garden:** Would like to remove all old signs & incorporate more information onto the new signs. C. Note agreed the sign needs more information and M. Reddick said the sign must meet the required code. The OS&R Board agreed to schedule a meeting with Casey @ Tower Health, Ken-Green Allies, and 2 members of OS&R Board to attend.
2. **Support for PAARC ~** Motion by S. Paup, second by C. Note and unanimously carried to recommend the Board of Commissioners to support funding for PARRC 2024-2028.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Discuss Gilbertsville Road ARLE Grant Proposal ~** S. Griffith stated there was a new process this year, which required us to submit a pre-application, it was submitted and accepted and we should hear something after the new year.

**BOARD COMMENTS** – C. Note wanted to thank Gary Novack for the millings for Schwenks Parking Lot. C. Note asked about reports on pond; G. Churach will provide update on his report. He stated that PondWorks has been very responsive and is now treating the pond with chemicals for the duckweed issue.

G. Churach ~ grant comment ~ recommends to plan 2 years out since it’s a long process.

M. Reddick ~ we’ve had a lot of tree issues and said next year they will ask the BOC for a separate line item for that in 2024 so it doesn’t come out of the Open Space Funds.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – No comments

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – The Board convened in Execution Session at 7:24 pm to discuss real estate with no action to follow. The Board reconvened at 7:57 pm.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri Griffith

Planning & Zoning Administrator