

A meeting of the Open Space and Recreation Board was held on Tuesday, January 9, 2024. Those present were Greg Churach, Chuck Note, Sherry Paup, and Mark McKinnie. Also present was Township Manager, Michelle Reddick and Planning & Zoning Admin; Assistant, Sherri Griffith. Commissioner, Cathy Paretti was in the audience.

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

**REORGANIZATION** – M. Reddick opened nominations for Chair. S. Paup nominated G. Churach as chair again, second by C. Note. Unanimously carried to approve. G. Churach opened nominations for Vice Chair. G. Churach nominated C. Note as Vice chair again and second by S. Paup. Unanimously carried to approve.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM November 14, 2023** – Motion by C. Note, second by S. Paup, and unanimously carried to approve the November 14, 2023.

### **REPORTS**

- A. Green Allies** ~ Ken presented a plan for parking, for event parking only. He also suggested installing a chain across the entrance of the parking lot driveway. Ken also mentioned he could use open area for overflow parking. G. Churach asked what's the alternative plan if it rains the day before an event. Ken said he would have to hire a shuttle bus & use Hillside. Ken asked about the garage use and G. Churach said it's used for storage of Open Space equipment. Ken asked if the property was going to be annexed to Althouse Arboretum property? G. Churach not sure & noted this would be a BOC decision. Ken asked if the township was redoing the operations agreement? G. Churach answered yes, to combine all properties into one agreement. Ken stated their interest is only in arboretum property & farm @ Prout Farm Park.
- B. PARRC** ~ C. Paretti provided a packet of information so members could get a better understanding of what the organization does. Provided 3<sup>rd</sup> qrt., report & will provide 4<sup>th</sup> qrt., report & annual when it's completed.
- C. Chair** ~ 3 people have expressed interest in purchasing memorial benches. We received payment for one at this time. The Schwenk parking lot entrance, handicap parking & trail have been paved. The sign needs to be installed in the near future. The Kehl house demo is complete.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Discuss Green Allies possible use of the Kehl Property:** Discussed earlier in the meeting.
- B. Discuss possible expansion of resident archery hunting program:** Ron Kasper that runs the hunting program is asking to expand the hunting area in Sunset Park, Sussell Park & Prout Farm Park. C. Note is not in favor of adding Sunset Park. M. McKinnie commented on how

far deer can move before they fall and thought there should be a setback from the trails. Members agreed to visit areas before making a decision.

- C. Discuss signage designating areas open to archery hunting.** Went over samples of the wording for signs and came up with a couple suggestions. G. Churach will create a couple of different options for next meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Discuss naming of and signage for new parking area on Schwenk Property:** Motion by M. McKinnie, second by C. Note, and unanimously carried to recommend the Board of Commissioners to approve the purchase of the sign & the name to be Schwenk Woods.

- B. Awaiting approval of Gilbertsville Road grant (12/30/2023):** No approval yet.

**BOARD COMMENTS** – M. McKinnie, being unfamiliar with things, asked who owns Althouse property. G. Churach stated Green Allies owns the house & part of property. The Township owns approximately 17 acres and Green Allies maintain the property. C. Note ~ thanked Greg for all that he does for the committee.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Went into executive session @ 8:08 pm to discuss real estate with no action to follow. The Board reconvened at 8:25 pm.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Meeting was adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sherri Griffith  
Planning & Zoning Administrator