



WARRINGTON TOWNSHIP OPEN SPACE TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES

September 11, 2013

7:30 pm

Attendance:

Name	Board/Committee
Gwyn Walton	Historic Commission
Fran McKee	Open Space
Jordan Bires	Open Space
Vince Evans	Planning Commission
Ivy Ross	Open Space – EAC
Kathy Newcomb	Open Space
Ruth Schemm	Open Space – Parks and Recreation
Fred Suffian	Open Space - EAC
Adele Weremeychik	EAC
Nick Weremeychik	EAC
Todd Baratz	EAC
John McGowan	Open Space
Shirley Yannich	Board of Supervisors Liaison

1. **Call to Order:** 7:30 PM

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **Public Comment** – None

4. **Old Business**

- a. Restricted properties – John McGowan had sent an e-mail to the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors stating that the Supervisors had approved adding language to place restrictions on 71 acres of land in June 2012. The response received from the Chairman was that he would direct the Township Solicitor to prepare the necessary deeds to restrict the parcels from ever being used for anything other than open space.
- b. The Lower Nike Pedestrian bridge has been delivered to the site and is currently stored along the entrance road. Currently, the contractor is waiting for PECO to shut down the transmission lines so the bridge can be safely installed using a crane. No date for the shutdown has yet been received, but it is hoped that the bridge will be installed prior to October 12.
- c. PECO Trail Survey – The survey work has been completed and a base map is being prepared. Design should begin shortly.
- d. Villanova students have completed a GIS map analysis and expect to have a report completed by November.
- e. Signs

- i. The sign application is under review at WREN. The signs had been expected to be in place by October, but the delay at WREN is preventing that.
 - ii. Signs have been completed for detention basin, wetlands and invasive species. Two more signs will be for open meadow and trees.
 - iii. Most sign producers want the layout to be completed by a professional graphics designer. Kathy Newcomb is a graphics designer and she said that she would be willing to help.
 - iv. There was a general feeling that signs installed vertically resisted weathering better than signs installed horizontally or at a small angle from horizontal.
 - v. One of the recommended sign producers is Genesis Graphics. They are located in Michigan and have a 5-week turn around time. It was hoped that a local sign producer could have a shorter turn around.
 - vi. Lower Nike entrance sign needs to be replaced ASAP.
- f. Warrington Day planning –
- i. Literature has been obtained from the Natural Lands Trust and the Heritage Conservancy about preserving land. The information will be available at Warrington Day. Interested persons will be given John McGowan's e-mail address as a first contact to get additional information.
 - ii. Bucks County has provided a digital copy of the county-wide open space and parks system. Jordan Bires will send the file to Roy Rieder to plot.
 - iii. Provide copy of Trails Map for display on Warrington Day.
- g. EAC hopes to be able to procure four additional signs by November
- h. EAC plans to get cost estimates for stands.

5. New Business

- a. Potential Easement Requirements – The committee reviewed a presentation depicting the easements that may be required to construct the Route 202 to Bradford Dam Connector Trail. The committee recommended that the presentation be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for their use when contacting the property owners.
- b. National Lands Trust – Ivy Ross said that Erin Lee was interested in working with township residents wanting to preserve/donate land. Ivy invited Ms. Lee to attend

the October 9 meeting and suggested that the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors be invited to attend as well.

- c. Ivy Ross stated that she had spoken to a woman who owned 11 acres at the end of Timber Lane who was interested in selling a portion of her property to the township as open space.
- d. Fred Suffian said that the EPA has ten Environmental Finance Centers across the country. The Finance Center for this region is located at the University of Maryland. He said that the Finance Center is interested in working with municipalities to assist them with their finance plans and may be willing to provide the services at no charge. He will forward the information to Barry Lubber.
- e. Kansas Road Mitigation Area – A walk-through is scheduled for September 20. A new wetlands delineation may be required. Ivy Ross asked why this was needed since the Trail Agreement with PennDOT is perpetual. The reason why that would be necessary is because there are federal and state permits underlying that agreement. Those permit expired in 2012 and can not be extended. New applications are necessary.
- f. Loop Road – The general concept of the Loop Road and access to township open space was discussed. The committee is also now aware that a plan approved in 2007 to construct 112 residential units on the land proposed to be included in the overlay are still valid and the 112 residential units can be constructed without any further land development approval from the township.

6. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted By:

Roy W. Rieder, P.E.
Director of Planning and Special Projects