

WARRINGTON OPEN SPACE AND LAND PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

February 2023 Minutes

- **Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance:** Ivy Ross, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at approximately 7:32 pm. Ms. Ross led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Attending at the Hybrid meeting were:

Ivy Ross, Chairperson	Ruth Schemm, Board of	Fred Gaines
Bill Connolly, Vice Chair	Supervisors Liaison	Bonnie Stetson
Kathy Newcomb, Secretary	Dan Merz	Joanne Mancini
Barbara Brown	Fred Suffian	Lisa Dietz
Sharon Kaszon		

- **Public Comment:** None.

- **Business:**

- a) **Silver Award Project - Katie Macaulay**

Scout leader Lisa Macaulay introduced two of her Silver Award Candidates, Katie Macaulay and Ava. For their Silver Award they need to complete 50 hours of service. They presented their ideas and received valuable feedback from Committee members, with members assuring their support and help. Ideas included installing a butterfly garden and some educational presentations.

- b) **Open Space Parcel Discussion and Levels of Protection - Approvals**

BOS approved having Heritage Conservancy hold the easements on Weisel Preserve, Emerson Gardens, Laurel Gardens and Grove Valley. Levels 2 and 3 still need approval.

- c) **Master Plan Update**

The task force has 9 members, chaired by Bill Connolly. Plan is being discussed but Open Space members noted that there are urgent environmental management issues to address, including stream bank stabilization and removal of invasive species.

- d) **Meadows Installation Project**

Project being covered by a grant from DCNR. There are two options: 1. Hire a designer and construction company separately or 2. use same vendor for both. Priorities include mowing the meadows in the Spring and planting in the Fall. The grant includes maintenance through 2026. Natural Lands has developed the seed mix. It was noted that meadow management is a need, not a want.

- e) **Pond to Wetland Conversion**

Project is out to bid. Boardwalk and platform are optional, depending on pricing. Budget is \$400,000, \$188,000 from the grant with a 50% match. Construction should start in March and take 4-6 weeks. Upon completion, Warrington can apply for a national award.

- f) **Wednesdays in the Watershed**

Fred Suffian shared information on master watershed stewards in Bucks County. They have offered to be part of a workshop on April 1, 2023, for the Stream Health grant at John Paul Park at Lower Nike. This workshop will include live staking along the Little Neshaminy Stream Bank. Warrington has grant money to purchase 300 live stakes and Penn State Extension will also donate live stakes. Other work will include the Watershed Stewards going to different locations every fourth Wednesday of each month to remove invasive species and do live staking, where necessary. They will also do a presentation on water quality..

- g) **Friends of Warrington Open Spaces**

This initiative can start with one half hour lecture series prior to the Open Space meetings. Possible presenters were discussed.

i) Possible Projects with Park and Rec

Dan Merz, chair of the Park and Rec board discussed the need for facility renewal and maintenance. Park and Rec is also mindful of playing fields offering park like settings as well. Some discussion on how to accomplish this. Also discussed that Park and Rec could do something on Community Service Day, the first Saturday in May.

j) Memorial Tree Planting and Bench Project

Andy Oles, Director of Park and Rec is working with Ivy Ross on a Memorial bench and tree planting program

k) Bat Houses-Eagle Scout Project

An Eagle scout is building 10 bat houses. Discussed possible locations.

l) Approval Of Minutest

January 2023 minutes were approved.

- **Adjournment.** Meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:22 pm.