

**MINUTES
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
JANUARY 7, 2019**

The Reorganization Meeting of the Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee was called to order by the secretary, Jenn Harbison at 7:05pm in the 2nd Floor Joe Pace Meeting Room of the Municipal Complex. Adequate notice of this meeting was given as required by the annual notice of meetings.

Jenn Harbison led the Commission in the salute to our flag.

ROLL CALL

Present: Autumn Baidouri, Leonard Fritz, Chuck McGlynn, Brent Salvadori, Cncl. Pat O'Reilly

Absent: Ty Cossaboon, Robert Toomer

NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS

Jenn Harbison asked for a motion to open the floor for nominations for the 2019 Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Open Space Advisory Committee. Brent Salvadori made a motion to open the floor for nominations for the 2019 Chairperson of the Open Space Advisory Committee. The motion was seconded by Chuck McGlynn.

Brent Salvadori nominated Len Fritz as Chairperson. The nomination was seconded by Autumn Baidouri. No other nominations were made.

**ROLL CALL VOTE ON NOMINATION OF LEONARD FRITZ AS 2019 CHAIRPERSON OF
THE OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE - ALL AYES
(Ty Cossaboon voted via phone call)**

Leonard Fritz was appointed as Chairperson to the Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee.

Jenn Harbison asked for nominations for the 2019 Vice-Chairperson. Ty Cossaboon nominated Brent Salvadori as Vice-Chairperson. The nomination was seconded by Len Fritz. No other nominations were made.

**ROLL CALL VOTE ON NOMINATION OF BRENT SALVADORI AS 2019 VICE -
CHAIRPERSON OF THE OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE - ALL AYES
(Ty Cossaboon voted via phone call)**

Brent Salvadori was appointed as Vice-Chairperson to the Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee.

Jenn Harbison asked for a motion to close the floor for nominations. Autumn Baidouri made a motion to close the floor for nominations. The motion was seconded Chuck McGlynn.

CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

Len thanked everyone and welcomed everyone back this year.

Autumn asked about the Feasibility Study being done. Len stated that the study takes about a month to be done however, unfortunately it does not specify anything about trails or anything else that we do, so we will have to ask them through the township council to have the study done. This study needs to be included in 90% of the funding applications.

Regarding the Ordinance change, Len advised that it had gone to Council in November but because of the end of the year and not having an Ordinance meeting in December, they will make sure that it is placed on the agenda for the first Ordinance meeting in 2019. Len brought Cncl. O'Reilly up to date with the Ordinance Changes that the committee had proposed.

Len had the privilege of being invited and attending the Gloucester County Open Space masterplan re-evaluation meeting held December 18, 2018. At the meeting one of the topics discussed was what Monroe Township has to do to be able to get assistance from Gloucester County. We need to update our ROSI (recreational open space inventory), the last one that the County has on record for Monroe is from 2009. Cncl. O'Reilly asked Jenn to find out when exactly the last ROSI was done before our next meeting in February. The County will help us with our funding applications to ensure getting the best chance of receiving funds. The DVRPC is also another great resource and they are willing to help us. Cncl. O'Reilly advised the committee that it is priority of the Council and the Mayor to receive grant writing assistance across the board, there is so much grant money out there and it is a problem that every committee is trying to research and apply for it on their own. There was a discussion amongst the committee regarding the problems of multiple committees going after the same grants and how this can be rectified.

The commission spoke about the basins in town and they brought Cncl. O'Reilly up to speed on what has been going on with them and the commission's involvement. Cncl. O'Reilly suggested long term if we can save money in converting some of the basins, maybe we can look at revamping some of them.

FUNDING

Autumn advised that there are more funding opportunities that she has come across. For instance, when doing maintenance on the trails, we need to figure out a way to add a health component that is more obvious to people. She referenced Cooper River Park where they have health notes placed along the track and Washington Twp. Park where they have fit stations around the trails. It is minimal cost but it is attractive to everyone with respect to the health component. If we were to add the health component to our applications, we will have more funders to choose from. Cncl O'Reilly questioned how often does funding come up, Len advised that it is something that we have to constantly look for. For example, certain ones like Green Acres, the actual open space fund that the state controls come around in April and June, the DVRPC also has one for Open Space that is in February or March. Autumn advised that the DVRPC funds the Feasibility Studies too.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Len suggested focusing on more trails this year and he stated that the DVRPC and the County are also gearing up to for this as well this year. The DVRPC is trying to develop a trail that connects all 9 counties, Gloucester County is the gab in the current trails. He would like to be able to connect to the Camden County trails as that will give our residents more accessibility. At this time the Commission discussed their ideas and thoughts on the trails.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairperson Leonard Fritz asked for a motion to adjourn. Brent Salvadori made a motion to adjourn the Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee Reorganization Meeting of January 7, 2019. The motion was seconded by Autumn Baidouri and unanimously all in favor by all members of the Commission. Meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenn Harbison, Secretary

The next scheduled Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee meeting is Monday, February 4, 2019 at 7:00pm.

These minutes were prepared from excerpts of the tape-recorded proceedings of the Reorganization Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting of January 7, 2019 and serve as only a synopsis of the proceedings.

Approved as submitted _____ Date _____
Approved as corrected _____ Date _____