

**MINUTES
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
March 4, 2019**

The Regular Meeting of the Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee was called to order by Chairperson Leonard Fritz at 7:00pm 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.

Chairperson Leonard Fritz led the Commission in the salute to our flag.

ROLL CALL

Present: Leonard Fritz, Jonathan Garbowski, Chuck McGlynn, Brent Salvadori, Cncl. Pat O'Reilly

Absent: Veronica Adepeju, Autumn Baidouri, Ty Cossaboon, Ryan Rebozo, Robert Toomer

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Len Fritz asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 4, 2019 meetings. Brent Salvadori made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted of the Open Space Advisory Committee Meetings of February 4, 2019. The motion was seconded by Chuck McGlynn and approved by all members of the Committee in attendance.

CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

Len welcomed Jon Garbowski back to the committee and he is looking forward to working with him.

Len reported some of the funding options are coming up rather rapidly. He said in order to apply for some of the funding, we need to have the Feasibility Study and ROSI updated. Cncl. O'Reilly said the RPF's for a grant writer that he has previously talked about, are due March 19, 2019. He said with a grant writer on staff, all of the Township commissions/committees, through their chairperson, will have access for all of their grant writing needs. Jon asked about the list of properties that the committee had previously submitted to Council. Len explained the types of properties are listed. Jon asked if the committee ever considered possible funding by doing a type of environmental study. Len said this would fall in line with the Feasibility Study.

Brent said, he feels the trails at Duffy Park should be a top priority for the Committee. Cncl. O'Reilly said he has spoken with Cncl. Pres. Garbowski regarding Duffy Park and his thought is to have trails go within the woods and not necessarily just the perimeter around Duffy. He said the Township owns thirty more acres that are wooded and part Wetlands behind Duffy.

Cncl. O'Reilly handed out printed overview maps that he prepared for the Committee to review and discuss the proposed nature trail connection to the bike trail to Scotland Run County Park. He said Cncl. Wolfe has an established relationship with Freeholder, Jim Lavender, who is the liaison to the County Park System, and they have meetings already scheduled to further discuss the possible connection. He said these trails and bike paths are only going to be possible with heavy County investment. A discussion among the members followed and they feel the ability to increase the trails in the Township and obtain the connection would be a homerun for the Open Space Advisory Committee. Cncl. O'Reilly advised the members that Council is in full support of spending the money that is needed to acquire properties to help

CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS (cont'd)

preserve the open space in the Township. He said there is 1.5 million in the Open Space account, which is from old developer money, however, there is very little funding recovery, so once the money is spent, it is spent. Len said, he has always been very firm on not spending the money in the account and trying to have as much funded through the County, State and grants as possible.

Len spoke in regards to the current bike trail being another item the Committee needs to focus on this year. He said, currently it is a straight run, and they may want to consider adding some rest stations, trash receptacles, and covered areas with benches along the trail. He said, he has heard Washington Township is in the process of adding a connector trail coming all the way to Monroe Township. He is unsure how they are planning to connect our trail to theirs, but the County does have it in the works. The members then had a discussion about the long range goal of eventually being able to cross the bike trail over the Black Horse Pike and the possible ways how to do so.

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 Meeting of March 4, 2019. The motion was seconded by Jonathan Garbowski and unanimously all in favor by all members of the Commission. Meeting adjourned at 8:01pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenn Harbison, Secretary

The next scheduled Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee meeting is Monday, April 1, 2019 at 7:00pm.

These minutes were prepared from excerpts of the tape-recorded proceedings of the Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting of March 4, 2019 and serve as only a synopsis of the proceedings.

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