

**MINUTES  
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE  
APRIL 12, 2021**

The Meeting of the Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee was called to order by the Chairman, Len Fritz at 7:00pm. Adequate notice of this meeting was given as required by the annual notice of meetings.

Len Fritz led the Commission in the salute to our flag.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Veronica Adepeju, Autumn Baidouri, Alan Dodd, Leonard Fritz, Jeffrey Graziano, Tracy Lavin, Tushar Patel and Cncl. Carolann Fox (who logged in at 7:50pm)

Absent: Jonathan Garbowski and Brent Salvadori

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Jeffrey Graziano made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted of the Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting of March 1, 2021. The motion was seconded by Tracy Lavin and approved by all members of the Committee in attendance.

**CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS**

- **Liaison Reports**

**Parks & Recreation** – Alan reported, the Music Festival is cancelled at this time. The Easter Bunny Trail Parade went really well.

- **Sub Committee Report**

Autumn advised there has not been a formal meeting since the last meeting, so there is nothing new report.

- **Members Tour of Township Open Spaces and Parks**

Len reported, the members went on a tour of the Township's Open Spaces. Jeff stated that he felt it was very helpful, as he is relatively new to the town and that he will revisit the parks in the future. Veronica said, she really enjoyed the tour, as she had only been to a few of the parks prior to the tour. Autumn noted, she also enjoyed the tour and now has been visiting Mary Mazza Duffy Park with her children. Autumn said, while at Wagner Field, there was talk of having Brent look into what it would take for the basketball teams to acquire a permit to play there. Len suggested following up with Brent via email, since he was unable to attend this evening's meeting. She feels having the basketball teams play at Wagner Field would be a good start to getting people back at that park. Autumn spoke regarding having one of the high school or middle school science classes do a social media video debunking the rumor of the electric lines at Wagner Field. A discussion followed regarding how to possibly debunk the rumors associated with Wagner Field and ways the field can be utilized.

Autumn suggested that the members touch base between the meetings to socialize ideas of various content to post on the Committee's social media. Tracy suggested, having a simple weekly post to keep the residents engaged with the Committee. Autumn will put together a posting plan to discuss further at the next Sub-Committee Meeting.

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

Jeffrey Graziano made a motion to open the Public Portion. The motion was seconded by Veronica Adepeju and unanimously approved by all members of the Commission in attendance. With no one wishing to speak and no public comment received, Alan Dodd made a motion to close the Public Portion. The motion was seconded by Jeffrey Graziano and unanimously approved by all members of Commission in attendance.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION**

Jeff noted that during the summer, if meetings are in person, he will have to virtually attend, as he will be staying in Florida for the summer.

Alan mentioned that he had recently spoke with Cncl. O’Reilly regarding Crystal Lake and what can be done to address the area and Cncl. O’Reilly had suggested that Alan bring it up to the Open Space Committee. Alan spoke regarding what can be done to possibly revive the area, however he noted, it seems like it will be an uphill battle. A discussion followed between Alan and Len regarding the area and the issues surrounding the lake and the property.

Cncl. Fox logged in after she finished with the Council Meeting. Len brought her up to speed on what was discussed during the meeting. He asked her about the possible use of Wagner Field and debunking the rumors surrounding the field, to which Cncl. Fox said she will do some research and report back to the Committee. Cncl. Fox mentioned that she heard the Members Tour of the Township went really well. Len asked Cncl. Fox if the sketch that he created of the Township’s Open Spaces would be appropriate to submit to Council, to which Cncl. Fox agreed.

Tushar Patel stated that the Tour of the Township was very helpful and provided a lot of knowledge, as he is new to living in the Township. He thanked Len for the ride and providing him with the in-depth information about the Township.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, Chairperson Leonard Fritz asked for a motion to adjourn. Veronica Adepeju made a motion to adjourn the Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting of April 12, 2021. The motion was seconded by Tracy Lavin and unanimously all in favor by all members of the Commission in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenn Harbison, Secretary

The next scheduled Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee meeting is Monday, May 3, 2021 at 7:00pm.

*These minutes were prepared from excerpts of the tape-recorded proceedings of the Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting of April 12, 2021 and serve as only a synopsis of the proceedings.*

Approved as submitted \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved as corrected \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_