

**MINUTES
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
DECEMBER 6, 2021**

The Meeting of the Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee was called to order by the Chairman, Len Fritz at 7:03pm. 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: Autumn Baidouri, Alan Dodd, Leonard Fritz, Tracy Levin, Tushar Patel, and Cncl. Carolann Fox

Absent: Jonathan Garbowski and Brent Salvadori

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Autumn Baidouri made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted of the Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting of October 4, 2021. The motion was seconded by Tracy Lavin and approved by all members of the Committee in attendance.

CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

- **Approval of 2022 Meeting Dates**

Tracy Lavin made a motion to approve the 2022 Schedule of meeting dates. The motion was seconded by Tushar Patel and approved by all members of the Committee in attendance.

- **Approval of 2022 Recommendations to Council**

Autumn Baidouri made a motion to approve the 2022 Recommendations to Council. The motion was seconded by Tracy Lavin and approved by all members of the Committee in attendance.

- **Liaison Reports**

Parks & Recreation – Alan reported that the Holiday Reverse Parade was held on December 4, 2021 and had a really good turnout despite some residents saying they were unaware of the parade. A discussion followed regarding ways to inform the residents about upcoming events besides posting the events on social media.

Council / Zoning Board of Adjustment – Cncl. Fox stated that there is nothing new to report pertaining to Open Space at this time.

- **Sub Committee Report**

Autumn noted, there is nothing new to report at this time.

- **Sykes Lane Lot**

Len said that everything pertaining to the Sykes Lane Lot is in the Township's court at this point, noting depending on weather and time, Public Works can start on the parking lot area.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Autumn apologized to the members present for not having the time the last couple months to dedicate to create opportunities and leading the effort to recruit new members. She noted that she would like to create a prospective timeline for next year to focus on the various projects dealing with public outreach and recruitment. Cncl. Fox said, she also serves as Council Liaison to Municipal Alliance and they also have a number of vacant positions as well as several of the other Boards and Commissions in the Township. A discussion followed regarding the vacancies and ways to help fill them.

Autumn asked Cncl. Fox if she has heard anything about the money that Gloucester County received for open space and how it may trickle down to Monroe Township, to which Cncl. Fox said, she has not been made aware of any monies coming to Monroe Township for open space. Cncl. Fox will reach out to the County to see what the plans for the money are and report back to the Committee. A discussion followed regarding the money that Gloucester County received for open space.

Autumn asked that the Committee not let the Wagner Field project fall off of the Committee’s radar in 2022. She suggested, possibly scheduling a clean-up in May. Len stated, he would like to keep Wagner Field as number 3 on the Committee’s Project List, with the order of the list being Sykes Lane, the Trail around Duffy Field and Wagner Field.

Cncl. Fox mentioned, with the Council Re-organization Meeting coming up, she is hoping to be reappointed as the Council Liaison to the Open Space Advisory Committee, however if she is not, she expressed how nice it was to work with everyone this past year and appreciates everyone’s hard work.

Len thanked everyone for all of their hard work this year, noting it was nice to see all of the momentum, noting he would like to keep it going into the next year.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Autumn Baidouri made a motion to open the Public Portion. The motion was seconded by Tracy Lavin and unanimously approved by all members of the Commission in attendance. With no one wishing to speak and no public comment received, Autumn Baidouri made a motion to close the Public Portion. The motion was seconded by Tracy Lavin and unanimously approved by all members of Commission in attendance.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairperson Leonard Fritz asked for a motion to adjourn. Tracy Lavin made a motion to adjourn the Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting of December 6, 2021. The motion was seconded by Alan Dodd 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, January 10, 2022 at 7:00pm.

These minutes were prepared from excerpts of the tape-recorded proceedings of the Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting of December 6, 2021 and serve as only a synopsis of the proceedings.

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