

**MINUTES
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
JULY 11, 2022**

The meeting of the Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee was called to order by the Chairman, Len Fritz at 7:02pm. Adequate notice of this meeting was given as required by the annual notice of meetings.

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Autumn Baidouri, Anthony Bundi, Leonard Fritz, Mark Kozachyn, Tracy Lavin, Tushar Patel, and Cncl. Patrick O'Reilly

Absent: Alan Dodd and Brent Salvadori

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tracy Lavin made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted of the Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting of April 4, 2022. The motion was seconded by Anthony Bundi and approved by all members of the Committee in attendance.

CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

- Liaison Reports

Council - Cncl. O'Reilly did not have anything new to report.

Parks & Rec – Alan Dodd and Brent Salvadori were not present to provide a report.

- Subcommittee Report/Social Media

Tracy stated that there is nothing new to report at this time.

- Sykes Lane Lot

Mark stated that he likes how it looks. Len suggested, the members take a ride by the parking lot when they have a chance, because it looks very nice. He noted that Public Works has paved the parking lot, the handicap spaces have been striped, a sign has been placed and the trail connecting to the bike path is already installed, they even took the extra step with the trees that the Committee wanted to keep at the top of the parking lot by placing mulch around the trees. Tracy asked if the Bike Repair Station has been installed, to which Len said, not yet, it still needs to be installed. Autumn volunteered to create a press release to send to Cncl. O'Reilly to review and bring back to the next meeting for discussion and further review prior to sending it to the Williamstown Sun for publication.

Cncl. O'Reilly spoke regarding the fence panel storage that he and Tracy were able to obtain for the property. Mike Calvello, the Public Works Supervisor, is on vacation, but said that when he returns, he will find a place to store the panels. A discussion between Len, Tracy and Cncl. O'Reilly followed

regarding ideas on where the panels can be stored. Cncl. O'Reilly asked who is taking the lead with the bike repair station, to which Len replied, it was previously discussed that Alan would take the lead. Len said, he will send a follow up email to Alan tomorrow. Cncl. O'Reilly said, he will take the action of speaking with the MMUA about water connection at the lot, noting it has to be metered but no bill, similar to the connection at the Community Gardens. Cncl. O'Reilly said, he will also take the action of speaking with the Director of Public Safety, Joe Kurz, regarding having signage placed at the corner of the bike trail that says "No Parking", as he would like to deter people from parking in front of the residential houses that are located by the parking lot. Cncl. O'Reilly would to see if the Committee can either create or find someone who can create an artistic sign for the lot, that will give credit to the Open Space Advisory Committee, as it was their project from the beginning. Mrs. Nelms suggested incorporating the schools, with maybe a contest, for the creation of the sign, to which all members in attendance agreed. Cncl. O'Reilly said that he would eventually like to see on either sides of the walk way, some sort of natural habitat so there will be less mowing and maintenance. He suggested that Len speak with Dan Kozak, as he is the new Chairman of the Environmental Protection Commission, to bring the new members of the Commission up to speed on the project.

- Duffy Fields Trail

Len had a map printed to show the members where the trail will be going, however since not all of the members are in attendance in person, he would like to further discuss this in detail at the August meeting. Cncl. O'Reilly said the layout of the trail is in line with what the Committee originally spoke about, it is good conceptionally but where it goes depends on where the wetlands lines tie-in. He also spoke regarding the current parking concerns for the fields along with ideas for the vacant house that is located on the property, which is currently being used as storage. A discussion followed.

- Wagner / Olympic Field

Len suggested tabling Wagner Field discussions until the Committee is able to get the trail around Duffy Fields "off the ground".

- Township Parks & Open Space Tour

Len would like to try and schedule a "tour" around town sooner than later and asked everyone to email him their availability so he can schedule a date.

GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Autumn Baidouri made a motion to open the Public Portion. The motion was seconded by Mark Kozachyn 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 Anthony Bundi 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. Autumn Baidouri made a motion to adjourn the Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting of July 11, 2022. The motion was seconded by Tracy Lavin and unanimously all in favor by all members of the Commission in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Nelms, Substitute Secretary

The next scheduled Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee meeting is Monday, August 1, 2022 at 7:00pm.

These minutes were prepared from excerpts of the tape-recorded proceedings of the Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting of July 11, 2022 and serve as only a synopsis of the proceedings.

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