

**MINUTES  
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE  
MARCH 6, 2023**

The meeting of the Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee was called to order by the Chairman, Len Fritz at 7:05pm. 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: Alan Dodd, Crystal Fox, Leonard Fritz, Tracy Lavin, Marjorie Sherrard and Cncl. Chelsea Valcourt

Absent: Anthony Bundi, Mark Kozachyn, Tushar Patel

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Crystal Fox made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted of the Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting of February 6, 2023. The motion was seconded by Tracy Lavin and approved by all members of the Committee.

**CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS**

- Liaison Reports

**Council** – Cncl. Chelsea Valcourt reported that the Township is looking into grants because the Church agreed to the easement and the only issue now is the funding. She also looked into if it was mandatory to charge for space at a Township event and an ordinance has been drafted for the next meeting to clear up the verbiage. She will continue to make announcements and try to get people involved.

**Parks & Rec** – Alan did not have anything new to report.

**Environmental** – Crystal stated that they are looking for groups to participate in Clean Up Day. She also reported that they are looking to plant Black-eyed Susan flowers instead of wildflowers because wildflowers are dangerous to animals.

- Sykes Lane Lot

Len stated that the fence installation is complete and the signs are up. Public Works has offered to help with the signage and they have suggested a 6 ft. buffer for the lawn mower. The Committee is still interested in the bicycle station repair. It is estimated that the cost to start this would be between \$500-\$2000.

- Connector Trails

There was a discussion regarding rest areas. These would be on the connector trails that the Committee is working on, not the current bike path.

One connector trail would be from the bike path to Scotland Run Park. Len said this project is still doable, but just waiting for the right time. After the townhouses are built, the County could be contacted about this project. Another idea was a connector trail to the new dog park. The County is in the process of redoing County roads and is including bike lanes, which could be beneficial to the project.

- Trails New and Existing

One idea that the Committee was working on was the trail around Duffy Fields. The idea has come back up again and the trail would connect to all the fields.

The Committee has decided to do another Spring Tour to show new members and remind current members of the major Open Space in town. It was decided that this tour would be on Saturday, April 22, 2023 at 9:00am. Sites that will be visited include the Sykes Lane Lot, Fries Mill/322, Wagner Field and Duffy Field.

**GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

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

**OPEN DISCUSSION**

The Committee has stated that a future collaboration with other Committees would be something they are interested in, specifically for Earth Day.

**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 March 6, 2023. The motion was seconded by Crystal Fox and unanimously all in favor by all members of the Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Ballard, Substitute Secretary

**The next scheduled Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee meeting is Monday, April 3, 2023 at 7:00pm.**

*These minutes were prepared from excerpts of the tape-recorded proceedings of the Seniors Commission Meeting of March 6, 2023 and serve as only a synopsis of the proceedings.*

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