

**MINUTES
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
OCTOBER 2, 2023**

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.

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Anthony Bundi, Alan Dodd, Crystal Fox, Leonard Fritz, Mark Kozachyn, Marjorie Sherrard, and Cncl. Chelsea Valcourt

Absent: Tracy Lavin, Tushar Patel, and Michael Silvestro

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Crystal Fox made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted of the Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting of July 10, 2023. The motion was seconded by Marjorie Sherrard and approved by all members of the Committee in attendance.

CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

- **Liaison Reports**

Council – Cncl. Chelsea Valcourt has not received any updates regarding the Owens Park Expansion but she should have information to present at the next meeting.

Parks & Recreation – Alan encouraged everyone to attend the annual Fall Festival on October 21st beginning at 10:00am at Owens Park followed by the Halloween Parade which begins at 7:00pm on Main Street.

Environmental Protection – Anthony said that there is nothing new to report at this time.

- **Owens Park Expansion**

Len noted, Cncl. Valcourt is still waiting on the Mayor to provide answers to the questions the Committee had regarding the Wetlands issues, etc.

- **Sykes Lane Lot**

Len noted, the Committee has completed many projects that they set out to do with the Sykes Lane property, suggesting that maybe it is time to let some of the other township appointed committees, the schools groups, and/or the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts within the township to do some of the planting and other projects at the property. A discussion followed regarding the various clubs that may be interested in the planting and the potential projects at the property. Len spoke in reference to the bike repair station that was previously awarded to Sustainable Monroe for the property, but was never obtained or installed. A discussion followed regarding the process in order to acquire the supplies needed to do any projects and/or planting at the lot. Len explained the Open Space account and the how the monies have been

obtained. Crystal shared pictures of a bike repair station that she saw when visiting Cornell. Marjorie asked, what a good point would be on the bike path to have a bike repair station installed. Crystal noted, she believes that the area of the path located at the middle school would be ideal and Mark noted, that he thinks it should be installed at the Sykes Lane lot. A discussion ensued regarding the various types of bike repair stations and the ideal location to be installed. Cncl. Valcourt will reach out to the other Township Committees' Council Liaisons to see if any other group would like to do some planting at the property and report back. Crystal will research the various options for bike repair stations to present at the next meeting. Mark stated that he would be willing to purchase the seeds/plants and take care of the planting instead of trying to find another group to handle it. Marjorie spoke regarding the safest place to have a bike repair station installed and ways to make the area safe for those who will potentially use it. Jenn offered to reach out to the Police Department and will report back at the next meeting. Mark offered to look into the seed pricing and report back.

- **Connector Trails**

Len stated there is nothing new to report at this time. He spoke in reference to a grant that was awarded to Glassboro and Mantua from the DVRPC which will help connect their trails all the way to Woodbury. He noted, Monroe Township will most likely be the last leg with the connector trails in Gloucester County.

- **Member Expirations**

Jenn advised there are a few members whose appointment terms will be expiring at the end of the year. She noted, she will be contacting everyone on the process to be considered for reappointment.

GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Mark Kozachyn made a motion to open the Public Portion. The motion was seconded by Crystal Fox and unanimously approved by all members of the Commission in attendance. With no one wishing to speak and no public comment received, Anthony Bundi made a motion to close the Public Portion. The motion was seconded by Crystal Fox 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. Anthony Bundi made a motion to adjourn the Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting of October 2, 2023. The motion was seconded by Marjorie Sherrard and unanimously all in favor by all members of the Commission in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Harbison, Secretary

The next scheduled Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee meeting is Monday, November 13, 2023 at 7:00pm.

These minutes were prepared from excerpts of the tape-recorded proceedings of the Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting of October 2, 2023 and serve as only a synopsis of the proceedings.

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