

Delaware Township Open Space Committee Minutes

Monday, July 19, 2021

Prepared by Rosalind Westlake, Open Space Chair

Join Zoom Meeting

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Attendees are asked to announce themselves when they come into the meeting, so that all in attendance can be aware of each other. If using the computer video, we ask that you change your name upon entering the meeting.

Open Space Chairperson Rosalind Westlake called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Westlake and then she took the roll call. In attendance were: Larry Coffey, Joshua Goldman, Kathy Katz, Susan Lockwood, Steven Smotrich, Rosalind Westlake. Chair Westlake advised that Member Petrochelli had unexpectedly passed away and that there was an even more urgent need for new members for the OSC.

Chair Westlake advised that minutes had not yet been prepared for the June meeting and that review of those minutes would be tabled until the next meeting.

Update of Existing Applications

Chair Westlake advised that there were presently no pending applications.

Open Space Coordinator Position

Chair Westlake advised that the Township still had not agendized any discussion of hiring an Open Space Coordinator and that she was unaware of if or when there would be any such discussion.

County Open Space Committee Update

Member Goldman advised that County has not met since the last meeting.

Comments from the Committee

Chair Westlake advised that she was in receipt of a detailed listing of Delaware Township preserved property that had been prepared by Roger Harris. Member Katz noted that Jim Borders had also worked on a listing up through 2014. Member Lockwood suggested that Kathy Klink may also have a listing.

Chair Westlake also advised that she had filed the Greenacres request and that she had prepared the planning professional grant request form for signature by the Mayor.

Member Lockwood advised that she had not voted for or against the Open Space Tax Referendum as she was unwilling to advocate for it. She advised that she would only provide information in connection with the Open Space Tax. She noted that \$0.01 was all that is left after debt service has been paid and that outreach has been hampered by the loss of an OS Coordinator and that the referendum created a loss of continuity for the OSC.

Member Smotrich advised that the Township Committee had approved the hiring of a professional planner for Dilts Park. Member Smotrich advised that he had conferred with the CFO and been advised that the Twp. Attorney needs to draft a Request For Proposal (RFP).

Member Katz pointed out that the Planning Board has a professional planner and that it might be a good idea to use the same firm (Colliers); she also noted that Stockton had a park planner.

Member Goldman advised that he would like to see the Village Green project added into the Recreation Commission plan.

Member Coffey inquired if the County has a park planner. Member Coffey also reminded the OSC that the census is being recorded. Chair Westlake requested that Agricultural Advisory Committee consider spearheading locating a planner to update the Farmland Preservation Plan census information.

The members agreed that the August meeting could be cancelled given that there are no pending applications and no pending OS Coordinator applications.

Meeting Open to the Public

There were no members of the public present, so the Chair closed the meeting to the public.

Member Smotrich made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Member Katz seconded the motion. The meeting ended at approximately 7:55 pm.