

Williams Township Land Preservation Board
Minutes, April 23, 2019 Meeting

Present: Bob Schmidt, Ron HineLine, Jim Williams, Rick Reppert, Linda Heindel, Polly Clark
Supervisors: Mark Ernst, Ray Abert
Township Assistant Manager Melody Ernst

Chairman Schmidt opened the meeting at 7:00 pm. He led the group in the salute to the flag.
The March 26, 2019, minutes, corrected for the name of Mark Ernst, (moved Reppert, 2nd Williams) were approved 5-0.

Updates on Preservation Projects/ Applications/ Shows of Interest

Nehoda and Walter projects – The County grant application deadline was removed, so Laura Baird continues to work on the applications. An email from Baird noted that the grant covers additional expenses (e.g., appraisals, surveys, other administrative costs related to property acquisition, legal fees) up to a limit of 5% of the county-funded portion per application. HineLine calculated that this would mean:

Nehoda project, assuming County 50% = \$112,329 x .05 = \$5,616

Russell project, = \$81,750 x .05 = \$4,088

Melchor project – no further movement.

Schmidt continues to ask Indian Valley Appraisals for an appraisal similar to that of Snyder Associates so that figures would be comparable, but has not yet attained that. HineLine and Schmidt will continue personal contact with Melchor.

Heindel mentioned the possibility of new potential owners of tracts on Hexenkopf Rd. that would border on Melchor Hexenkopf tract that might support a combined application for those sections.

Old Business

The March Treasurer's report shows \$1,969,909.32 in the Open Space Fund. HineLine reviewed the checking and savings accounts and the new CD investments.

No report on the Wild and Scenic Partnership. Ernst explained his opposition to the township's signing a memorandum of understanding because the plan restricts withdrawing water needed by the fire company, and forbids canoeing and fishing.

Announcements

Schmidt will contact Baird about the proposed September workshop on open space in September.

Audience Comments

Ernst called attention to an October 2018 law (possibly HB 544) that owners of preserved property who provide "open recreation" are freed of liability provided they receive no gifts for allowing access.

Motion to adjourn (HineLine, 2nd Williams) passed at 7:38 pm.

Submitted

Linda Heindel, Secretary

Next meeting: May 28, 2019, 7:00 pm