

Williams Township Land Preservation Board
Minutes, August 24, 2021 Meeting

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

Chairman Williams opened the meeting at 7:01 pm. He called for the pledge of allegiance, then a review of the July 27, 2021 minutes. Motion (moved Schmidt, 2nd Williams) to approve the minutes, passed 3-0.

Updates

Ballek Rd. –Close-out of easement with County is not yet complete.

Berger Rd.– Owner’s attorney, Township Attorney Reiss, and Heritage Conservancy representative have met; negotiations are still ongoing. Williams will follow-up on this project.

Raubsville Rd. – Heritage Conservancy representative is talking with the landowners; they are finishing up the AOS.

Old Business

New Scoring system was approved by the BOS. Schmidt had explained the guidelines behind our recommendation to BOS.

Tumble Creek Rd. landowners have taken no action on their proposed acquisition of another tract of land. Williams’ questions about the methodology mentioned in the Reiss email (reproduced in the LPB agenda of 7.27.2021) were shelved. Schmidt had provided answers to many of their questions, but there has been no response. LPB had been urged by Supervisor Ernst to be present when the owners of the tract in question gives permission for LPB to walk the tract that the proposing landowners wish to obtain. LPB will wait until the landowners/proposers take some action.

Impacts of the Sunshine Law – Supervisor Ernst had said at July meeting that not all provisions of it would apply to an advisory committee like LPB. Thursday’s webinar on the subject may clarify some issues.

New Business

Report on outreach to potential preservers:

Schmidt reported providing many answers to questions but receiving no further response.

Heindel reported no action from two landowners she has contacted.

Treasurer’s report: \$1,831,027.52 in the August 24, 2021 Open Space Account. We are awaiting the County’s \$80K reimbursement on the completed Russell project.

Schmidt will ask Baird when the \$15,000 Heritage payment to the township is applied, what it covers.

Two applicants for the vacancy on the LPB were present, gave a summary of their interest, and responded to LPB’s questions. Selection of a person to fill the current vacancy will be made at the September meeting.

Announcements – Schmidt gave a summary of Heindel’s period of service and number of acres preserved in that time period.

Audience Comments – None

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm. (on motion by Schmidt, 2nd Heindel), approved 3-0.

Submitted

Linda Heindel, Secretary

Next Meeting: September 28, 2021, 7 pm