

Williams Township Land Preservation Board
Minutes, September 28, 2021 Meeting
At the Williams Township Community Building, 655 Cider Press Rd., Easton, PA 18042

Present: Jim Williams, Ronald HineLine, Linda Heindel, Polly Clark

Absent: Bob Schmidt

Supervisors: Ray Abert, Michael Bryant

Chairman Williams opened the meeting at 7:05 pm. He called for the pledge of allegiance, then a review of the August 24, 2021 minutes. Motion (moved HineLine 2nd Williams) to approve the minutes. Approved (Williams, HineLine, Heindel) 3-0.

Updates

2020-1 Ballek Rd. – Still awaiting close-out of easement between Heritage Conservancy (holder) and County.

2021-1 Berger Rd. – No further update from owner’s attorney, Township Attorney Reiss, and Heritage Conservancy representative.

2021-2 Raubsville Rd. – Williams noted that the Agreement of Sale (AOS) and Conservation Easement (CE) documents have been sent to the landowner. HineLine will obtain bids for the survey from Keystone and Cowan.

Old Business

-- Tumble Creek Rd. landowners have taken no action on their proposed acquisition of another tract of land.

-- Williams reported on a meeting (09/14/2021) between Atty. Reiss, Twp. Mgr. Mikal Sabatine, himself, and Linda to learn more about requirements under Act 65/The Sunshine Law. He reviewed requirements and restrictions of agendas, definition of “official action,” what constitutes a quorum and when it is needed in a meeting, distinguishing between a “meeting” and a “work session,” rules governing public comment, definition and use of executive session, and public recording of a meeting. The question of how LPB members may interact when they are together, especially on a site visit, will be raised with Atty. Reiss. Williams will hold an Executive Session before the October 26 meeting to discuss the applicants for LPB positions.

-- In response to the suggestion that LPB request of the Supervisors two additional Alternates, HineLine proposed Motion (moved HineLine, 2nd Williams) that the Land Preservation Board request that the Board of Supervisors appoint a second alternate. Approved (by Williams, HineLine, Heindel) 3-0.

-- Williams asked if the LPB wishes to impose time limits and for how much on a speaker from the floor. HineLine suggested: Motion (moved HineLine, 2nd Williams) that the time limit of five minutes be declared for a speaker from the floor on a topic under discussion. Approved (Williams, HineLine, Heindel) 3-0.

-- Report on outreach to potential preservers:

HineLine reported no action after two contacts with one landowner.

Heindel reported no action from two landowners she has contacted.

Treasurer’s report: HineLine reported from the Township Treasurer as of August 24, 2021: Checking account -- \$18,980.72; Savings account -- \$1,810,780.54; for a total of \$1,829,761.26 in the Open Space Account. We are awaiting the County’s ca. \$80K reimbursement on the completed Russell project. Expenses were listed as Open Space legal expenses -- \$880.00 and Heritage Conservancy -- \$643.50.

Three additional applicants for the vacancies on the LPB were present at the post-Meet ‘n Greet session, gave summaries of their interest, and responded to LPB’s questions. Selection of a person to fill the current vacancy will be made at the October meeting.

Announcements – None

Audience Comments – None

Meeting was adjourned at 8:22 pm. (on motion by HineLine, 2nd Heindel), approved (Williams, HineLine, Heindel) 3-0.

Submitted

Linda Heindel, Secretary

Next Meeting: October 26, 2021, 7 pm at the Community Building