

Minutes of Meeting
West Pikeland Township Open Space Advisory Subcommittee
July 24, 2008

A regular meeting of the West Pikeland Township Planning Commission was convened on July 24, 2008, at the Township Building at 1645 Art School Road in Chester Springs, Pa.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Curt Grogan, chairman. Other Subcommittee Members in attendance were Teresa Wood, Ted Gacomis, Bob Haskell, Roberta Rometsch, Ann Orth, Ted Gacomis, Darren Groff and Jim Rowan.

PERSONS WISHING TO BE HEARD

There were no persons from the public present who wished to speak to matters not on the agenda.

FINAL REVIEW OF “GENERAL INFORMATION FOR CONSERVING YOUR PROPERTY” DOCUMENT

Curt Grogan asked Sean O’Neill to run through his suggested edits. Following discussion there was consensus on two items: Section 3: change the limit on purchase price from appraised value of property to appraised value of easement or other interest being purchased; and, add new Section 5, called “Formalizing the Understanding” in order to describe the need for a written agreement and public hearing on the purchase.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

Curt Grogan reported that he will be away from August 1st to August 19th. The meeting scheduled for August 14th is still on schedule. Pam Brown and Claire Quinn of French and Pickering Trust have been invited to attend an Open Space Subcommittee meeting to review and coordinate West Pikeland activities. Pam Brown thinks that will be on August 28, but it may occur on August 14th, in which case Curt would like to go ahead in his absence. Curt has looked into open space practices of other Townships and reported that West Bradford and Nottingham do not have a fixed policy on requiring a lot yield analysis but treat it as discretionary. Charlestown does it on larger projects when required by appraiser but not on small projects.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING UPDATE

Curt Grogan attended the July 21st meeting of the Board. He reported that at that meeting the Board: accepted the recommendation that WPLT be included on the list of approved easement holders; accepted, subject to final WPLT approval, the recommendation that the costs of appraisal and yield analysis for landowner easement projects be paid by the Township from available Open Space funds; and confirmed the distribution of notice to adjacent townships and the school district of the proposed open space mapping documents addendum to the Township’s Open Space, Recreational and Environmental Resources Plan, with the comment period to end August 28, 2008.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the July 10, 2008 meeting were presented by Ann Orth, discussed, and on motion by Jim Rowan, seconded by Roberta Rometsch, approved by unanimous vote (with abstention by Sean O'Neill, Ted Gacomis and Bob Haskell who were not present for the July 10 meeting).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Chairman called for an executive session to discuss a proposal by NALT to work with the Township to secure easements on certain properties in the Township, and to review a list of properties on which the Township should pursue acquisition of open space interests.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion by Bob Haskell, seconded by Ted Gacomis all, the Committee unanimously resolved to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sean O'Neill
Sean O'Neill, Secretary

ADDENDUM: See Executive Session Notes Addendum

