

**CHADDS FORD TOWNSHIP OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2024 - 7:00PM**

This meeting was held at the Chadds Ford Township building located at 10 Ring Road, Chadds Ford, PA 19317

Chair Mattes called the Open Space Committee meeting to order at 7:08 PM. In attendance were Peter Mattes, Chair; Helene Badeau, Vice Chair; Kathleen Goodier, Secretary; Rob King, Committee Member; Mike Pessagno, Committee Member; Sarah Sharp (Zoom), Committee Member; Samantha Reiner (Zoom), Supervisor Liaison; Lacey Faber, Township Manager; and Emily Pisano, Assistant Township Manager. Public attendance, none.

Annual Organization

- a. Appointment of Chairperson: Kathleen Goodier nominated Peter Mattes to serve as Chair. The motion was seconded by Rob King. All voted in favor.
- b. Appointment of Vice-Chairperson: Peter Mattes nominated Helene Badeau to serve as Vice-Chair. The motion was seconded by Kathleen Goodier. All voted in favor.
- c. Appointment of Secretary: Peter Mattes nominated Kathleen Goodier to serve as Secretary. The motion was seconded by Rob King. All voted in favor.

Announcements

The Committee thanked David Poston who is no longer a resident of Chadds Ford, therefore no longer able to serve as a voting member on the Open Space Committee. The Committee thanks Mr. Poston for his many years of service to the Committee and Township.

1. Minutes

- a. October 12, 2023: Mike Pessagno made a motion to approve the October 12, 2023 minutes, which was seconded by Vice Chair Badeau and approved 5-0 with one abstention from Rob King due to non-attendance.
- b. November 17, 2023: Rob King made a motion to approve the November 17, 2023 minutes as amended, which was seconded by Vice Chair Badeau and approved unanimously.

New Business

- a. Davis Tract Presentation from North American Land Trust: Steve Carter, President of North American Land Trust (NALT), presented the Committee with a potential opportunity for the Township to partner with them in acquiring 1597 Baltimore Pike abutting the village businesses. Potential for helping alleviate parking constraints within the village was discussed. NALT is looking for a letter of support from the Committee as they pursue their grants. It was agreed that the Committee is supportive. Supervisor Reiner reported that the Board of Supervisors had previously heard this presentation and are very supportive.

2. Reports:

- a. Pumpkin Paint & Carve: Vice Chair Badeau asked for clarification that Linda Allen received a message of thanks on behalf of the Open Space Committee.
- b. Tree Giveaway for Recycling Day – 2023: Considerations for 2024 include a small tree and a more accessible location during the event.
- c. Painter's Folly Nomination for National Register: The PA Preservation Review Board will review the Painter's Folly application for nomination to the National Register at their February 6th meeting. The public is invited to attend and provide comment.
- d. Harvey Run Trail Annual Report: The report highlighted trail usage for 2023. The trail averaged sixty-one (61) people per day. The report did not include March 2023.
- e. Sunset Hill Preserve Site Walk: The Committee discussed installing benches, a possible second entrance due to dryer ground since the closing of the Ridge Road Sewage Facility, and additional markers installed along the boundary line.

3. **Old Business**

- a. Property Owner Letters (5+ acres): Letters and conservation information were sent to residents in 1997 and 2019. Suggested updates to the Leaving a Legacy booklet include information on Brinton Run Preserve, accurate legal references, addition of Transfer of Development Rights, and contact information.
- b. Debbie Reardon Memorial: The Committee favored a bronze and metal plaque. The Committee agreed to consult Bob Reardon on the plaque's language.
- c. Chadds Ford Open Space Signage: The Committee discussed consulting the "Water Trail Wayfinding Signage Guidelines" published by the Brandywine Conservancy and using a design of a creek and the words, "Chadds Ford Open Space."

4. **New Business**

- b. 2024 Committee Goals Discussion: The Committee discussed goals including extending the trail off the municipal playground, continuing community events and adding a sand sculpture event in the summer, partnering with a local organization for a larger community day event, and holding a public meeting for a trail at Sunset Hill Preserve.
- c. Township Land Boundary with Estates at Chadds Ford: There is concern that residents are maintaining Township property as private property. The Committee discussed sending a letter from the Township, adding signage, preservation of priority properties, and addressing hunting stands facing Township property.

Adjournment: Upon a motion by Peter Mattes, seconded by Mike Pessagno, the meeting was adjourned at 8:54pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 8th, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Kathleen Goodier
 Secretary, Chadds Ford Township Open Space Committee