

**MINUTES**  
**Chadds Ford Township Open Space Committee**  
**Thursday, February 9, 2023**

**Attendance**

Peter Mattes, Chair  
David Poston, Vice Chair  
Kathleen Goodier, Secretary  
Rob King  
Mike Pessagno  
Lois Saunders, ad hoc  
Emily Pisano, Assistant Township Manager

Regrets: Sarah Sharp  
Noelle Barbone, Supervisor Liaison

The meeting was called to order at 7:03pm.

**Announcements** - None

**Public Comment – Non-Agenda Items** – None

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes for the January 12, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved after a motion by Rob King, seconded by Mike Pessagno.

**Routine Business/Reports**

**Mother Archie's** – David Poston represented the OSC at last month's subcommittee meeting. Planning a cleanup in the Spring, possibly April. The Township will publicize the date. Brushes and cleaning agents will be provided. The site has been accepted to the "Black Cemetery Network" based out of the University of South Florida Heritage Research Lab. Parking at the site is still a concern but is not addressed in the current plan. Rob believed the existing parking can be expanded without adversely disturbing the site. The Township invited Crystal Crampton to the next subcommittee meeting. She was instrumental in the preservation of Bucktoe Cemetery (UAME) in Kennett.

**Brinton Run Preserve Volunteer Opportunity** – NALT is looking for volunteers for native tree planting, invasive plant removal, property maintenance and like duties. Sign up in on the NALT website. Rob reported that he will be removing trees at the front to increase visibility.

**Craig Farm** – The Township will be issuing a letter of support for a DCNR grant which will be submitted by NALT and may be providing the matching funds. The Township would agree to hold the easement with administration and assistance from NALT. This action supports the OSC goal of preserving open space. The grant is focusing on part of the parcel – about 50 acres. Mike Pessagno agreed to write a draft letter on behalf of the OSC.

**Projected in Place at Painter's Folly** – On January 26<sup>th</sup>, "N.E. Thing Productions" projected various scenes onto the walls. Hope to be able to do it again on a larger scale.

**PHMC Keystone Construction Grant** – Will be submitted at the end of the month for ADA improvements on the first floor.

**Western Suburbs Trail Summit** – Matt Baumann and Emily attended and gave a presentation on Walkable Chadds Ford.

### **New/Old Business/Reports**

#### **New Business**

#### **Old Business**

##### **Process for tree planting on Township owned property**

- Submit application
- Go to OSC Agenda at next meeting
- Go to BOS agenda upon recommendation from OSC
- Once approved, donor gives Township a check
- Township purchases and plants tree

Rob cautioned that any plaque in the ground must be mowed around.

Location would be the Township's choice.

Discussion ensued on the idea of whether an existing tree could be chosen to be dedicated.

- Suggestion to have contributions proportional to the tree size (DBH)
- Range of \$150 for smaller tree to \$300 for larger

Plantings would be done twice a year (Spring, Fall) Fall is preferred.

Usually, trees are guaranteed for a year.

#### **Development Updates** - none

#### **Public Comment** - none.

Rob King met with a property owner along an area of Creek Road where parking by people accessing the Brandywine is a problem. The owner has problems with trespassing.

Rob King walked the Township owned lands on Heyburn and was surprised by some of the property lines. He reported an open cesspool by the old house and that some of our property has been seemingly appropriated by a landowner. We need to make Township holdings clear. Rob will show Matt Baumann the issues.

**Playground – Seasonal/Monthly Event** – Peter reminded the committee about a potential Easter Egg Hunt. Various details were discussed including candy, eggs, bunny costume.

Potential date: April 1

Age groupings, staggered times. Keep simple for the first year

Sign-up to gauge how much to buy, ensure CFT residence

Can fill eggs with candy (peanut-free), flower seeds for planting

Baskets not provided

Reach out to Residents Association for donations

Story time – Peter Cottontail?

Emily will reach out to Rachel Kohl Library for Easter Bunny

Funds for these events should maybe be a new budget item in the Township Annual Budget

Upon a motion by Dave Poston, seconded by Rob King, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 9, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Goodier

Secretary, Chadds Ford Township Open Space Committee