

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

**Attendance**

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

Regrets: Noelle Barbone, Supervisor Liaison

The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm.

**Announcements** – Peter welcomed Helene Badeau to the committee.

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

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes for the February 9, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved after minor corrections upon a motion by Rob King, seconded by Mike Pessagno.

**Routine Business/Reports**

**Craig Farm** – Although interest has not changed, the landowner requested that NALT delay the DCNR grant application for a year because of the time constraints of the deadline. The historical value of the land was briefly discussed as well as its inclusion in the Brandywine Conservancy's Brandywine Battlefield Heritage Interpretation Plan.

**Mother Archie's** – Subcommittee met last week. There will be a volunteer cleanup on April 15 with a rain date of April 22. Volunteers will meet at the Township building and carpool to the site. The Township is looking into applying for the Certified Local Government grant through PHMC focusing on a feasibility study for the site and ways to preserve the site and promote its historical significance. A member of the subcommittee went through boxes of material recently received by the Township relating to the site. He will summarize his findings.

**PHMC Keystone Construction Grant** – Township has successfully submitted its application focusing on ADA accessibility on the first floor of Painters Folly. Grants are expected to be awarded in June.

**Easter Egg Hunt** – Scheduled for April 1. Two age groups: 1-3 and 4-6. Easter bunny will arrive and read a story between the two hunts. Candy, toys, and eggs have been ordered and crayons will be distributed along with printed coloring book pages. Funds will be coming from the open space taxes because the playground is considered open space and it is the office's understanding that an activity benefitting the public on municipal open space can be funded thusly. A Parks and Recreation budget should be considered for next year. Fee-in-lieu funds were discussed as possible source of funding.

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

### **New Business**

**Approve Color for Pavilion Staining** – HARB recommended something that complements the shingles on the Pavilion roof. The decision tonight will be given to HARB for consideration. The committee recommended "Natural #078".

**Discuss Heyburn/Girl Scout Property** – Matt Baumann, Township Manager met with Rob King last week on site to choose where to place the gate. The gate will be 16 ft with a wheel and a brace at the bottom. Matt authorized two days of clean up work for dead tree and brush removal as well as filling the hole.

Signage was discussed. The Township should make the property lines clear. The OSC logo was discussed as well as a possible update. Recognizability is important. Possible names for the property were also discussed. Purple paint law is in effect in PA to delineate private property/no trespassing. Rob recommended a sign at each corner and smaller signs added in between.

### **Old Business**

**Approve and Recommend Tree Donation Policy** – Emily made changes based on the recommendations from last month's meeting.

**Maintenance and replacement** – if we are given a warranty from the nursery, we can offer that to the applicant. Peter recommended "Trees guaranteed per installer's policy (Typically 12 months)" to allow for flexibility.

**Existing tree donation** – decided against.

**Memorial grove** – possibility discussed. Importance of keeping vistas open and meadow pristine.

**Minimum size** – would be dependent on tree type – generally 1.5-inch tree, 10' tall.

Emily distributed a list of trees suitable for donation. Committee members added and deleted species. Trees should be low maintenance.

**Plaque** – yes or no, design subject to approval. Rob recommends spring loaded, not on ground due to difficult maintenance issues. Plaque is an extra charge. Sarah will check with the Brandywine Conservancy to see if they use signage parameters.

Peter moved that the OSC recommend the Chadds Ford Township tree donation policy as presented at the 3/9/23 Open Space Committee meeting to the Board of Supervisors for approval. Mike Pessagno seconded. All voted in favor.

**Development Updates** - none

**Public Comment** - none.

Upon a motion by Helene Badeau, seconded by Rob King, the meeting was adjourned at 8:09pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 13, 2023.

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