



CHADDS FORD TOWNSHIP MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Supervisors
From: Matt Baumann, Township Manager
Date: February 22, 2023

2022 Open Space Committee Activities Report

This memo serves to act as the Open Space Committee's written activities report for the year 2022 and is being submitted to the Board of Supervisors as required by the Chadds Ford Township Code (Chapter 22, Section 22-4). The following matters were discussed by the Open Space Committee in 2022, with the action taken on each matter as noted.

Heyburn/Girl Scout Property: Committee member Rob King assessed the property and noted a large amount of dead ash trees. The committee walked the property on March 25, 2022. A survey of the property was recommended to determine the property lines. When the cable prohibiting access to the property was clipped, the committee agreed a more permanent solution was needed for the entrance to the property. *At the July 14th meeting Rob King made a motion to recommend that the Board of Supervisors use Regester and Associates pending further clarification from Chair Mattes with a cost of \$10,000 to survey the Heyburn Road property in late summer/early fall 2022. Chair Mattes seconded the motion which passed unanimously.*

Discussion: February 10th, April 14th, May 12th, June 9th, July 14th, September 8th, October 13th

Action: Regester and Associates was recommended by motion to perform a survey at the July 14, 2022 meeting.

Major Land Owner Draft Letter Status: A draft letter was circulated by committee member David Poston at the March 10th and 14th meetings. The booklet to accompany the letter was updated by the Brandywine Conservancy. Together the letter and booklet would be sent from the Board of Supervisors to landowners in Chadds Ford Township with 10+ acres. The landowners would be encouraged to protect their property as open space and provide suggestions for preservation. *At the July 14th meeting Chair Mattes made a motion to approve the letter to landowners draft dated April 11, 2022 with the changes from "Since 2007" to "Since the adoption of the Open Space Plan in 2007" and removal of text of "Enclosed is a booklet" and addition of Rob King and BOS contact information. Rob King seconded the motion which passed unanimously.*

Discussion: January 13th, March 10th, April 14th, May 12th, June 9th, July 14th, September 8th.

Action: The draft letter was approved and recommended to the Board of Supervisors by motion at the July 14, 2022 meeting.

Tree Initiative/Program: The goal of the tree program was to encourage residents to plant trees and expand the Township's green canopy. Chadds Ford's first tree initiative was held as part of the Township's annual Recycling Day event. *At the July 14th meeting Chair Mattes made a motion recommending that the Board of Supervisors use Musser for 100 American Hybrid Chestnut Trees at \$5.50/tree plus 20% shipping and handling. Rob King seconded the motion which passed unanimously. At the September 8th meeting Chair Mattes made a motion recommending that any extra trees from the Tree Initiative be planted on or at the Brinton Run Preserve and Chadds Ford Township municipal properties. Rob King seconded the motion which passed unanimously.*

Discussion: January 13th, March 10th, April 10th, May 12th, June 9th, July 14th, September 8th, October 13th, November 10th.

Action: Musser was recommended as the tree provider by motion at the July 14, 2022 meeting. It was recommended by motion at the September 8, 2022 meeting that any remaining trees be planted at the Brinton Run Preserve or on municipal property.

Octoraro Trail Phases 1 and 2: At the February 10th meeting the committee discussed a letter from committee member Mike Pessagno regarding the feasibility study. The letter discussed the committee's feedback on the November 2021 Octoraro Trail public meeting.

Discussion: January 13th, February 10th, May 12th.

Action: No action taken

Expansion to Include Parks & Recreation: Chair Mattes proposed at the April 14th meeting that the mission of the Open Space Committee should include that which is off road and outdoors, and remove sidewalks. It was determined that a second committee for the sole purpose of Parks and Recreation was not necessary. It was decided that the committee will continue to submit review letters for land development applications in areas designated as preservation areas in the Open Space Plan. Review letters should also include any proposed bicycle and pedestrian networks.

Discussion: March 10th, April 14th, May 12th, June 9th.

Action: No action taken

Storytime: In order to utilize the newly constructed pavilion in Chadds Ford Township's park, a weekly story time was organized. Storytime took place every Wednesday from June 22nd through August and featured two books read by a volunteer reader. Books were chosen with assistance from the Rachel Kohl Community Library. A flyer was approved at the May 12th meeting.

Discussion: March 10th, April 14th, May 12th, June 9th, September 8th.

Action: No action taken

Brinton Run Trail Placement: *At the April 14th meeting committee member David Poston made a motion to accept the yellow trail placement on the Brinton Run Preserve as indicated on the*

NALT map titles, "6 Oakland Road, Trails & Public Access." The motion was seconded by Rob King and passed unanimously.

Discussion: April 14th

Action: The motion was made at the April 14, 2022 meeting and passed unanimously.

Pavilion Rental Requests: After the Township received several requests regarding pavilion rentals, a process was discussed for implementation in 2023. *At the November 10th meeting committee member Mike Pessagno made a motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors approval for pavilion rentals as distributed with rules and regulations. Rob King seconded the motion which passed unanimously.*

Discussion: June 9th, July 14th, November 10th.

Action: A pavilion rental process with rules and regulations was recommended to the Board of Supervisors on November 10, 2022.

Staining of the Pavilion: *At the November 10th meeting committee member Mike Pessagno made a motion to recommend the estimate given by Colorful Remedies, LLC. In the amount of \$1,630.00. David Poston seconded the motion which passed unanimously.*

Discussion: September 8th, October 13th, November 10th

Action: Colorful Remedies, LLC was recommended by motion at the November 10, 2022 meeting.

Proposed Additions to Brinton Run Preserve: Matt Stutzman, NALT, believes he needs Township approval for trail location per the trail agreement with the Township. They are proposing a new trail in the western part of the property. He seeks clarification on the trail agreement that we could not give. They have mowed in the new trail and have an idea where the water crossing will be, with a future bridge. Surfacing will remain mown. Topography is challenging. NALT is in discussion with neighbors to provide them access with spur trails if they are interested. The spur trails will not be on the official maps and will be signed appropriately for private property. No current plans for educational signage on the new trail but they don't rule it out. They are in the process of converting grasses to pollinators that will have educational signage. *A the September 8th meeting Chair Mattes made a motion recommending to the Board of Supervisors the approval of trails and pollinator gardens as shown on Brinton Run Preserve Conceptual Property Plan dated July 13, 2022 with spur trails reviewed at a later date. Kathleen Goodier seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.*

Discussion: September 8th.

Action: The proposed plans were recommended to the Board of Supervisors by motion on September 8, 2022.

Memorial for Debbie Reardon: The Brandywine Conservancy stated they would like to provide an opportunity to memorialize Debbie Reardon, perhaps with trees and plaques on the Harvey Run Trail, planted on each side of the property line, representing the partnership that she strove to nurture. All agreed this was a good and appropriate idea. The committee agreed on a spring planting.

Discussion: November 10th

Action: No action taken

Township Tree Policy: The committee discussed creating a tree policy to include a list of appropriate trees, who covers cost, who maintains the tree, and sign parameters.

Discussion: November 10th

Action: No action taken

1381 Baltimore Pike: The Township purchased the property in 2014. The committee discussed keeping it as open space and removing the concrete slab.

Discussion: November 10th

Action: No action taken