

London Grove Township Open Space Committee Meeting Notes: March 8, 2018

Attending: *Members* – Paddy Neilson, Tina Skinner, Lew Wilkinson; *Staff* – David Sweet

1. Misc. old/new business

- a. Status of Open Space Fund. Balance in the Fund as of March 5 was \$2,463,737. On Feb. 7, the balance was \$2,439,812.
- b. Catch the Rain. Shane Morgan of the White Clay Wild and Scenic Rivers Program will attend the Committee's April 12 meeting to further explain the Catch the Rain rebate program. She feels the idea of a joint meeting of homeowners' associations is worth exploring.
- c. Re: the Curland application to Chester County for the sale of development rights, Geoff Shellington is attempting to establish whether the Township's easement on the property was properly recorded.

2. Riparian buffers.

- a. Re: grant funds held by the Brandywine Conservancy to assist landowners with the cost of riparian vegetation installation and maintenance, an inquiry will be made as to the eligibility of the Township and the Municipal Authority for those funds for their respective properties.
- b. Information is being distributed to members on a Return on Environment concept that is being used in several Pa. municipalities to determine the economic value of natural system functions.

3. Easements in progress

- a. Hutchison. Grant DeCosta reports that the application for sale of the development rights on the Penn Twp. portion of the family lands is on the state Board's April agenda. Settlement appears likely at some point between May and August. A botanical survey of the London Grove property will be conducted in May, with results to be appended to the easement.
- b. Brosius. The Conservancy is meeting with DEP this month to seek permits for the proposed stream crossing on the property. Installation of the crossing, and riparian vegetation, could occur this fall.

4. Landowner contacts

- a. Reef. Paddy has left several messages.
- b. Tingley. Paddy and Eric Brown will coordinate on setting up a meeting.
- c. Yarmouth Stables. An individual suggested by Dominique is assisting Eric, who has made contact with the property owner. No change in use is contemplated, and there appears to be interest in exploring a preservation action.
- d. Claire Birney – Tina is in touch and will invite her to a future meeting.
- e. Yeatman – Paddy has scheduled a meeting with family members.

Next meeting: Thurs., April 12, 7 p.m.