

Open Space Advisory Committee – November 9, 2010

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m.

Attendance

Present: Cronce, Hess, Kowalski, Pfeiffer, Sommers-Sayre

Late Arrival: Andreoli (arrived at 7:39 p.m.)

Absent: Baran, Fisher (Twp. Committee Liaison), Urbanski (Excused)

Presentation by Arthur Foran

Arthur Foran presented a walking trails concept for his properties on both sides of Route 202. The Foran properties have been in the family since 1928. Maps were discussed and topography reviewed. Mr. Foran has also reached out to his neighbors who have also expressed potential interest. A copy of a letter presented by Mr. Foran is attached to this record.

Mr. Foran noted he had already been in contact with D&R Greenway regarding the proposal. Pfeiffer will contact Bill Rawlyk to determine how D&R might want to be involved in the project. Arrangements were made with Mr. Foran for some representatives from the Open Space Committee to visit the property on Sunday November 14.

Opportunity for Public Comment

No additional public comment was offered.

Approval of written record for 12Oct2010 meeting

(Baran, Cronce, Hess, Urbanski - ineligible)

Motion to approve the record as presented was made by Kowalski with a second by Sommers-Sayre. Motion carried on voice vote – all ayes.

Future Open Space Planning – Discussion

Continuation of discussion Re: Open Space Plan – Pfeiffer reported on recent conversation with Bernie Meader re: former Roebing property. New owners may be interested in preservation but timing is an open question as they are still settling in. Pfeiffer also reported on conversations re: Salata property. Green Acres has indicated we need to expend existing grant fund balance by the end of 2011. Pfeiffer reported this to the Township Committee last week. The Township will likely be moving forward on Bowers. Kaluzny is probably only interested in a fee simple sale, although Pfeiffer did leave her a message last week to verify she still isn't interested in an easement sale and is still waiting for a return phone call. Cronce will contact Ludwig to determine if they are ready to move forward or not. The King project probably will not be pursued unless Ludwig is also pursued.

Municipal Farmland Preservation PIG Application (2009/2010/2011 funding rounds) –SADC approved Township’s plan on November 4. Pfeiffer is working with County on Nunn application.

Easement Monitoring

Update on easement monitoring activities – No new information. Cronic will contact Baran to transition this assignment. Andreoli will assist.

Miscellaneous Project Updates

Open Space Newsletter – Text for Web publication was reviewed. Sommers-Sayre will format and include updated Open Space map to be provided by Hess.

County Municipal Grant Application – Urbanski provided additional requested information to County. Kevin Richardson (Hunterdon County) has advised we should get a check by the end of the year.

Open Space Map Updates – Machinga, Toll, Kilmer updates need to be made to map. Hess will work on the updates this weekend. Urbanski has also offered to help with future mapping if she can be provided with details on process.

ROSI Update – Will need to be updated to include public access areas from the Machinga property, as well as the Toll and Kilmer projects. ROSI map will also need to be updated.

Project Assignments

No additional project assignments were made.

Farmland Preservation Project Update

- Amwell Hunt, Block 8, Lots 20 & 36, 130.36 acres, Route 179/Rock-Lamb Rd.
Toll Brothers South, also known as West Amwell Ltd. Demolition work has been completed. Public works has secured the old farmhouse. Application has been submitted to USDA for soil conservation plan. Sharon Dragon is reviewing draft contracts with auctioneer firm. Pfeiffer is working on getting the appraisals updated.
- Gulick III (Block 14, Lot 33.05) ~17 acres, Gulick Road
County PIG project. Gulicks were sent County contract in October and Gulicks will return it this week. County is expected to begin survey this month.
- Nunn (Block 8, Lot 29.01) ~30 acres, Mill Road
Liaison: Pfeiffer
Nunns returned the required option agreement to the County prior to the deadline. Farm will be pursued via the Municipal PIG. Pfeiffer submitted draft of application to the County in September. We are

waiting to receive the mapping data from the County, which is expected shortly.

Green Acres Project Update

- Bowers (Block 28, Lot 26) ~21.5 acres, Goat Hill Road
Potential conservation easement project. Pfeiffer working on preappraisal forms.
- Kilmer (Block 8, Lots 14 & 15), ~62 acres, Route 179
Conservation easement project. Closed on October 13.
Reimbursement for land costs has been received. Pfeiffer is working with CFO Jane Luhrs on completion of soft cost reimbursement package.
- Lawson (Block 16, Lot 6.01) ~15 acres, Route 518.
Potential direct state acquisition. Appraisals ongoing.

Bill List

The following bill was received from Cortes & Hay, Inc.:

\$2,784.50 – Kilmer (Title Insurance) – Billed to Kilmer Ord. 21-2009.

The following bill was received from Lawson Excavating, Inc.:

\$32,249.00 – Toll (Demolition/Cleanup) – Billed to Toll Brothers Ord. 05-2009.

The following bill was received from Sharon Dragan, Esq.:

\$2,499.00 – Kilmer (Title Insurance) – Billed to Kilmer Ord. 21-2009.

Correspondence

No additional correspondence was discussed/

Opportunity for Public Comment

No members of the public were present.

PIG application will be sent to Open Space Committee members for review prior to December 1 Township Committee meeting. Kowalski volunteered to hand deliver the package to the state prior to December 15.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Hess with a second by Cronce. Motion carried on voice vote – all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Next Meeting

Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday, December 14, 2010, 7:30 p.m.