

Open Space Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes **DRAFT**

Meeting Date: July 13, 2021

Present: Dey, Hess, Hickman, Knell, Maines, Muscella, Perry, Rich, Zipin; Absent: Adair, Mayer

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Ms. Dey at 7:06.
2. **Consideration of Minutes.** The minutes from the June 8, 2021 were approved with a change.
3. **New Member Introduction.** We welcomed Mark Hickman to the OSAC.
4. **Status Update: “The Hill” at Garwood and Westfield:** Mr. Aberant is still reviewing the agreement.
5. **Status Update: Trucksess:** The County had said they would take the lead in purchasing this space, but they have now backed off that; we are not sure what their current plans are. In a letter to the Township, the County writes, “The Covid-19 pandemic has placed significant constraints on our finances and we are not able to commit to continuation of this program until we can fully understand the long-term impact on our budget.”
6. **Status Update: Priority List Review:** We discussed what should/shouldn’t be on our official Priority List. It is important that the list be accurate and up-to-date as the County won’t contribute if a property is not on this list and the list has not officially been submitted to them.
7. **Status Update: Swedes Run Fields – plantings and maintenance:** A pollination garden has been planted around the barn. Nothing will be planted in the fields until the fall; the Township will be mowing the property this summer. [STEM has offered to contribute \$7,000 for planting of a meadow; including native grasses that grow about 3 feet tall; working with the State.]
8. **Status Update: Signage Order:** Discussion: best location for the “Kay Smith’s Water Works Woods” sign; Gub to take photos of the Bike Path in the woods. Make the sign dimensions the same as the Little Woods sign; Patty had a mock-up of the sign.
9. **New Business: Preparing a comprehensive Open Space List:** Ongoing.
10. **New Business: Master plan:** Brian Slough of Clarke Caton and Hintz will be holding a public meeting for outreach to help determine what should be in the Master Plan Open Space element.
11. **Public Comment:** none
12. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 by Ms. Dey. The next scheduled meeting is August 10, 2021.