

Williams Township Land Preservation Board (LPB)

Minutes May 28, 2024

Williams Township Community Building

655 Cider Press Rd., Easton, PA 18042

Present: Ken Kodama, Lorraine Mineo, Lori Cox, Tom Heilman, and Alternate Michael Cortright;
Supervisor Ray Abert; township residents

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ken Kodama at 7:02 PM.

He called for the Pledge of Allegiance, then a review of the April 23, 2024 minutes. Motion to approve the minutes made by Heilman, seconded by Mineo. Approved 5-0.

Updates on Preservation Projects:

- 2022-2 Morgan Hill (south/lower parcel) and 2023-4 Morgan Hill (north/upper parcel): Property owner was present and shared that if Northampton County (NORCO) does not fund half of the cost of preserving their north parcel, they will withdraw their applications for both parcels. Still waiting for NORCO to update their model easement. Kodama spoke with Matt Babbitt of Heritage Conservancy (Heritage). The title company is sorting through the powerline easements. The easement for the substation is more complicated. Babbitt also updated the protection area maps to include the woodlands and helipad in the Special Protection Area. LPB discussed recommending the updated protection maps to the Board of Supervisors (BOS). Heilman made a motion and Mineo seconded. Approved 5-0.
- 2023-1 Steely Hill: The next step is a preservation sign. Babbitt had sent the LPB a sign proof in April. Heilman made a motion to recommend to the BOS that we accept the sign design, Cox seconded, approved 5-0.
- 2023-3 Morvale Road: Property owner was present. LPB is still waiting for NORCO to update their model easement and we still need to have another site visit with NORCO. Babbitt is updating the protection area maps to include the wetlands in the High Protection Area. Kodama will email Sherry Acevedo of NORCO and Babbitt to set up a site visit. Per the property owner's request, Kodama will see if this can be done on June 3, 2024.
- Show of interest for Cider Press Road: PA Fish and Boat Commission went out to the property but was unable to complete the survey. It was reported that following an interaction with one of the property owners, PA Fish and Boat Commission will not be going back. There are two other funding options. The township could fully fund it alone or with NORCO but the cost of this project would be high. LPB would need to do an Earned Income Tax ballot referendum.

Old Business:

- The Russell property preservation sign should be installed on June 3, 2024.
- Schmidt still needs to give the township office the file to print the map. Kodama will email Schmidt a reminder.
- Acevedo of NORCO informed LPB that the new model easement is ready to go. Acevedo hopes to get it before the full council at their next meeting, possibly the meeting after that.

New Business:

- Treasurer's Report: Mineo shared that the financial report was not ready yet for the BOS to approve so Mineo will share this at the next LPB meeting.

No announcements or comments from the audience.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:03 PM. Mineo moved, Heilman seconded. Unanimous approval. Next meeting June 25, 2024 @ 7:00 PM, Williams Township Community Building.

Submitted, Lori Cox, Secretary