

September 15, 2015

The September 15, 2015 meeting of the Mansfield Township Open Space Committee was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair James Watters, followed by a pledge of allegiance to the flag. Present were James Watters, Richard Rosenblum, Glenn Todd, Carren Thomas, Andy Parke, Township Committeeman Joseph Watters and Township resident Roberta Kugelmeyer. Absent were Brad Smith and Cindy Korczukowski.

### Minutes

Mr. Parke MOVED to accept and approve the minutes of the August 18, 2015 meeting, seconded by Mr. Todd. All in favor.

### Mr. Bethel Church

- Mr. Parke submitted a draft for the roof repair and replacement from architect Michael Margolin; the plan includes the downspouts, soffit and fascia. The contractor will determine the time frame; Township Committee approval is needed; Joseph Watters expects full approval at next Wednesday's meeting. Everything the contractor does must be approved by the architect.

Mr. Parke MOVED to share with the Township Committee the approval of the Open Space Committee, seconded by Mr. Glenn. All in favor.

- Recent photos of the church were shared. Ms. Kugelmeyer expressed concern for bus safety, handicap access, and use of the lower area. James Watters explained the downstairs area was built in the 1950s so this area is of no historic value.
- The roof must be repaired before winter. The mold has improved since the tarp was put in place.
- Approvals have been given for the non profit, but nothing in writing has been received.
- A 24-yard dumpster has already been filled; during the excavation an 1866 Bible was found intact in the kitchen.
- A discussion of church records followed, and their location is unknown. The records might be available in the Methodist Archive at Drew University. Some membership, birth and death records are in some old records retained by Mr. Parke. An oral history or even a video recording was discussed.
- Mr. Parke submitted a bill for \$62 from Frank Blanche Signs for the hand painted sign designating "Mt. Bethel Church Restoration 2015" with details.

Ms. Thomas MOVED to approve payment of the bill, seconded by Mr. Todd; all in favor.

- Brush has been cleared and bushes will be removed. The tree man has had an injury, Mr. Parke will call to learn his recovery. Debris and limbs from the tree should be offered to someone who will clean up; liability should be determined. Discussion of the cemetery followed, including the danger of damage from power washing the headstones.

- In response to several complaints, a request will be made to the Township Committee to speak with a Public Works employee to refrain from harassing volunteers working at the church.

Karrsville School House

- Mr. Dillon will resume work soon, the weather has been too hot. The windows are done, all but the pointing.
- Poison ivy must be controlled without the use of chemical spray along Snyder Road.
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Another matter that might relate to both the church and the school house, Joseph Watters reported the Township Committee has received complaints about political signs on display on Township property, this is now escalating. The attorney drew up an ordinance to stop this but the Committee voted it down.

Mr. Todd MOVED to adjourn at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth A. Pante, Clerk

**Next meeting date:  
October 20, 2015**