

February 21, 2017

The February 21, 2017 meeting of the Mansfield Township Open Space Committee was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chair Jim Watters, followed by a pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Present: Jim Watters, Andy Parke, Carren Thomas, Matthew Wielgus

Excused: Ron Hayes, Richard Rosenblum, Glenn Todd

Mr. Watters confirmed Ms. Thomas has been appointed as a member to the Municipal and Charitable Conservancy Trust Fund Committee.

Mt. Bethel Church

A complaint was filed with the DEP about the content of the fill used at the rear of the church; it was reported Mr. Hayes said this fill must be removed. Mr. Parke suggested recycler Intercounty Paving. Money received from Municipal Charities could be used for repair or replacement of windows. Mr. Wielgus shared a preparation guide which members reviewed. The historic structure report will become a living document. Ms. Thomas suggested Dennis Bertland as the overseer to the historic repairs who can prepare a plan. The architect, Mr. Margulies, wants \$30,000 to prepare a plan; Ms. Thomas asked if grant money could be used for writing the plan, which cannot be done. To save some money, this committee would like to do that work, and some of the work should be in the grant application last submitted. This plan would become a living document, and any work done must be documented. Ms. Thomas believes this work must be done correctly and an architect should be retained; a restoration such as this has never been done before. Sue Beale, former member of the Municipal Charities committee, can answer many of these questions but she was unable to attend this meeting. Mr. Wielgus suggested getting guidance; Ms. Thomas suggested Mr. Bertland might do that for a small fee; we must confirm first if grant money can be used. Municipal Charities very much favors the restoration of the church.

Friends Preserving Mansfield's Past

Application for tax exemption has been submitted. Stephen and Rita Love plan to return to New Jersey in May.

Beattystown Mill

It was suggested that the tour of the Mill be May 16, the meeting date of the Open Space Committee.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth A. Pante, Clerk

Next meeting date:

March 21, 2017