

West Rockhill Township  
Conservation Committee Meeting Minutes  
January 21, 2016

**Call to Order:**

The January 21, 2016 Conservation Committee meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM at the West Rockhill Township municipal building.

**Elected Officials:**

Supervisors:

Donald Duvall  
\*Jay Keyser  
\*James Miller

**Appointed Officials:**

Committee members:

Elizabeth (Betsy) Branson  
\*Vera Cole  
David Collingwood  
Karina Rilling  
Michael Schrameyer

**Township Manager:**

\*Greg Lippincott  
Judith Decker (Assistant to the Manager)

\*Absent

**Visitors Registered:**

Pamela West

**Conservation Committee Activity:**

**Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes of the September 17, 2015 meeting were approved as written. The November meeting was canceled.

**Old Business:**

1. Maintenance of Open Space- Don Duvall again spoke about the need for maintaining open space acquisitions including the structures (5 Township owned dwellings among them). The Pennsylvania state legislature's HB #1523 allows the use of open space funds for physical structures and trails. The CC will deliberate and discuss this change.
2. Database Updates – Michael stated that ensuring all data is correct and current is a tedious process necessitating numerous additions and corrections. Judy will approach Greg Lippincott to decide how the Database is best stored and accessed.

3. Property Evaluation Notification Letter - Betsy Branson's revised version of the letter was already approved by all members and the Board of Supervisors. Judy will ensure the latest revision features the update.

4. Conservation Committee Logo – members agreed on the two color logos, which best suited Committee purposes. Our graphic designer, Nancy Schnabel, will be contacted to complete the job so that the logos can be used electronically.

5. Spring newsletter- Michael will contact Vera and ask her to compile information regarding Conservation Committee activities.

**New Business:**

1. Judy Decker proposed the CC become more involved in the following:

- a. Management of conserved open space since acquisition activities have waned.
- b. Help with monitoring conserved properties if the outside agencies involved in initial funding are not doing so. Judy (with minimal help) has walked the Manderfield Preserve and opened trails, installed signs and supervised improvements to the parking areas.
- c. Proposed that the evaluation document the CC uses be updated to increase the points assigned to trails and connecting areas.

2. A number of newspaper article were presented. Among the most interesting points is that Pennsylvania has conserved 22% of its acreage!

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 9:05 PM.

**Next regularly scheduled meeting – Thursday, March 17, 2016 at 7:00 PM**