

West Rockhill Township
Conservation Committee Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2015

Call to Order:

The May 21 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
- *John Mann

Appointed Officials:

Committee members:

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

Township Manager:

Greg Lippincott

- *Absent

Visitors Registered:

John and Patrice Sweriduk

Conservation Committee Activity:

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of the March 19, 2015 meeting were approved as written.

Old Business:

1. Michael Schrameyer continues his diligent work updating our property database.
2. Open space signs:

The damaged Lichty open space sign (northbound side of Ridge Road) has been replaced with the one which had been in storage. The other damaged sign, which had been on the southbound lane, is now being repaired by Horizon Signs but will not be reinstalled since Mark Lichty feels one sign is sufficient to indicate his farm's preservation.

The Route 309 Bates property sign (extra large size) has now been installed on the northbound side.

3. Possible artistic directions for a Conservation Committee logo will be presented at the next meeting in July.

4. Vera will offer her suggestions on the letter to be sent to property owners after the Conservation Committee members have evaluated and recommended a direction for the BOS. The letter continues to be a 'work in progress.'

New Business:

1. Judy Decker will be at the July meeting to discuss 'trails.'

2. Pat Sweriduk suggested the township display a PDF of preserved properties to highlight their location and their scope.

3. One newspaper article was discussed:

Karina presented a news story detailing a little observed law on real estate transfer tax regulations. This onerous law requires a township to pay the tax when a property is put into conservation for a governmental agency. Senator Chuck McIlhenny is working to amend that law and provide an exemption.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned to Executive Session.

Next regularly scheduled meeting – Thursday, July 16, at 7:00 PM