

**Richland Township Preservation Board Meeting Minutes**  
**March 11, 2015**  
**Submitted by Rich Sadler**

**Members Present**

In attendance were Kathy Fedorocsko, Neil Erkert and Rich Sadler. Staff member present was Rich Brittingham.

**A. Minutes**

January's minutes approved as read.

**B. Financial Report:** Kathy & Rich met with township treasurer Chuck to go over the figures. Chuck explained that the amount of money in our account bounces around so much because he must report bond payments when they're due but can't report future tax receipts until they're received. By his estimate, we have \$305,609 available & the bond will be paid off in 2017-2018

**C. Property Reports, Active: None**

**D. Property Reports: Pending Contact / Action**

1. Liberty Homes, 36-09-102-2 & 36-09-112, 445 Gross road, 96 acres. Kathy made contact; we'll schedule a property walk. Laura Baird will find out if we can apply for a DCNR or Natural Areas grant for this property. DCNR application deadline is April 30.
2. Chete Khindri, 36-039-006, Old Bethlehem Rd., 43 acres. This property was previously approved for a sub-division. Sub-division never happened, & current rules probably wouldn't allow the division, as 1/2 the property is floodplain, most of the rest is wetlands.
3. Banko, 36-513 & 36-548 is not interested
4. Central Plains, 36-029-20, no interest
5. Zabitano, 36-029-21, 60 acres. They have some interest in preserving , we'll send them a letter.

**F. Maintenance policy on Township owned preserved properties: Tabled**

Heritage doesn't do Maintenance. We coordinate walking the properties with Heritage's baseline monitoring to outline what areas need to be mowed periodically before asking Tom Roeder, Richland Township's roadmaster, to quote on a maintenance plan.

**G. Baseline Monitoring:** Laura from Heritage presented a spreadsheet with status of 30 properties to be monitored starting in April 2015. Rich B sent Heritage information on 75% of the properties

**H. New bond:** Kathy a letter to see if any property owners are interested in preservation before we propose a new bond. Results are shown in **2. Property Reports: Pending Contact / Action**

**Old Business**

Dale will schedule an ASA meeting next year to include the two new properties. Supervisor Arnold will chair the meeting. Rich B will find out about legal requirements of advertising the meeting. The 7 year lifespan of the ASA is up; renewal for another 7 years is automatic..

Higher quality property signs; Kathy got a quote of \$600 per sign. We'll review where the signs will be most visible, then recommend how many to buy. We'd need 15-20 signs if we replace all the old signs

Hunting policy: We recommend posting our Fee Simple properties with the following: "Hunting by permit only" Rich B contacted the PA State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS) about how other townships handle this; no response yet.

Historic Preservation Ordinance: We reviewed our previous ordinance proposal against the provisions in our current zoning ordinance for historic preservation. The new ordinance seems to cover much of what we proposed except for demolition: Rich B assured us that demolition is covered in a separate ordinance

### **New Business**

1. Mission statement- Kathy rewrote it to read: "To recommend a comprehensive long term strategy for the preservation of open space, natural amenities & greenways; to seek funding for the acquisition of open space; to advise/oversee on-going maintenance of open space; the planning & acquisition of open space & the preservation & the preservation of agricultural lands & historic sites" The board approved her rewrite.

2. Resolution #15-13, excluding transfer tax for preserving properties, was approved by the BOS

3. Kathy will draft another letter asking the Bucks County Planning Commission for any funds apportioned to but not used by other townships.

**Motion to Adjourn- Kathy motioned, Neil seconded, unanimous approval.**

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 8, 2015, 7:00 PM**