

Trails, Open Space and Stewardship Advisory Committee Minutes

October 1, 2025

Attendance:

- Dave Mizenko, Chair
- Dave Bosted
- Jeff Lang
- Paul Larson
- Laura Lynch
- Michael Meriney
- Matt Potts, Secretary
- Mayor Patricia Hendricks Farmer, Committee Liaison (via Zoom)

Absent:

- John Emmons
- Jim Hooker

Also in attendance were interested members of the Community.

Meeting called to order at 7:32 pm by Dave Mizenko.

Meeting Discussion:

- All present in the meeting introduced themselves.
- The Committee approved the minutes recorded for the meeting from September 2025.
- Public Participation
 - No discussion topics.
- The Committee was updated on the Saturn Chemical property.
 - Dave M. reported that township engineer Jim Parvesse appraised manager Kevin Nerwinski of the opportunity to assess and remediate the property. Mr. Nerwinski indicated that he would look into the amount of the township's lien on the parcel and whether there is a viable ownership. According to the tax assessor, the lien as of March 2025 was about \$800,000.
 - Mayor Farmer will facilitate a further meeting between this Committee and manager Nerwinski to continue the conversation.
- Dave M. provided an update on the potential Princess Rd—D&R Canal Connector trail.
 - Dave M. spoke with Mr. Parvesse about our proposal and has also been in touch with the D&R Canal State Park Superintendent, who indicated that building a bridge on the state park land would be challenging.
 - Mr. Parvesse offered to walk the trail route with Dave M. in December. When the date is set, Dave will invite committee members to participate, and will also inform the park superintendent so her office has an opportunity to attend as well.
 - Dave B. suggested using the term "boardwalk" instead of "bridge" in case the former type of structure is easier to have built and maintained than the latter.

- The Committee discussed the U.S. Route 1 Bridge replacement project at the Shabakunk Creek and Colonial Lake Park.
 - Dave M. had previously discussed with Mr. Parvesse the possibility of safety bollards to separate traffic from pedestrians. If not feasible, another possibility is to raise the curb height from the planned 6" to 8" or more.
 - Members of the community have expressed concern about crossing the existing bridge without specialized protection or proper barriers.
 - Mayor Farmer expressed her support to advance this discussion with Kevin.
- Regarding the Lavender Farm property:
 - The property has cleared probate except for some final paperwork.
 - Rita Lavender is now the executer for the property.
 - Carol Simmons is the selling agent on the property, and she anticipates relisting it for about the same amount as the previous listing, \$400k.
 - Ms Simmons stated that the potential buyer from early this year is still interested, and may be open to preserving a portion of the property.
- On the potential Bossio-Salt-Armory Woods trail:
 - Mayor Farmer and Dave M. have discussed the potential trail system.
 - A group walk with the Committee is scheduled for Saturday, October 11 at 9:00 am to walk the property and discuss the plan on-site.
- Regarding this Committee's schedule of meetings for 2026:
 - The same approach will be followed for next year in which not every month will have a regularly scheduled meeting.
 - However, the group reserves the right to amend the schedule as needed to add one or more meetings as needed.
- Other Topics:
 - A few committee members' terms are set to end as of the end of 2025. It is expected that township clerk Tonya Carter will notify those individuals regarding renewing their appointments.
 - Jeff asked about an ongoing Colonial Lake shoreline restoration effort. It was confirmed that there is indeed such a project in progress, but it's estimated expected end date is unknown.
 - Dave B. suggested that since November is a good month for planting new trees, he encouraged the group to reach out to him for any ideas regarding where the Township could benefit from tree plantings.

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm.