

Parks and Recreation Commission

Cc: BOT, Manager, Parks Director

I'd like to see Parks and Recreation take a stand and push back by whatever means necessary on the Board of Trustee's false assertion that they control the Land Preservation Fund.

In 2001 the Township Newsletter (excerpt below, complete copy attached) says otherwise to voters who approved this millage.

This assertion that PRC controls these funds was repeated in 2006 and 2018 renewals by Parks without Board dissent.

**From Township Fall Newsletter, Vol. 3 Number 2, Prior to 2001 vote on Land Preservation Millage (See above 2001 L.P. Information, from FOIA 2238,2239)**

The Township Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) would be responsible for evaluating, recommending properties for acquisition and for managing these properties. The PRC would proactively seek, evaluate, and recommend these properties. Surveys of Township environmental areas as well as citizens' recommendations would be incorporated into this selection process. The PRC would also concurrently pursue grants to leverage millage dollars and maximize their potential value.

**From Parks and Recreation Newsletter, Spring / Summer 2006 prior to 2006 renewal**

**Which Township entity would manage the Land Preservation Millage funds?**

The Parks and Recreation Commission, having considerable experience in land purchases and donation, would continue to be responsible for managing the Land Preservation Millage monies. They currently manage eleven parks, which include the natural areas acquired with Land Preservation Millage funds, as well as managing the Oakland Township section of the Paint Creek Trailway. The park staff includes a full-time director, a full-time management coordinator who oversees and implements stewardship of park natural areas, two part-time administrative assistants, and two part-time maintenance technicians.

**From Parks and Recreation Newsletter, Fall 2018**

**Which Township entity would manage the Land Preservation Millage funds and evaluate properties?**

The Parks and Recreation Commission, having considerable experience in land purchases and donation, would continue to be responsible for managing the Land Preservation Millage monies. The OTPRC employs a combination of full-time, part-time and seasonal staff to meet operational and programming needs. They currently manage fourteen Oakland Township parks, including natural areas acquired with Land Preservation Millage funds, as well as managing the Oakland Township section of the Paint Creek Trail. The Parks and Recreation Commission has obtained ecologists' reports on the significant environmental areas within the Township. The Commission would continue to proactively seek available green space properties and evaluate them according to well-defined criteria, incorporating the recommendations of Township citizens. They would continue to work with real estate and legal professionals to pursue acquisition of the top-priority areas.

