



Franklin Township Open Space Advisory Committee
Municipal Complex
475 DeMott Lane
Tuesday, June 20, 2017
7:00 PM
Minutes

Melba Battin- P
Cecile MacIvor-P
Bill Connell-EA
Jack Connolly - P
Bob Vornlocker-P
Mark Healy-A
Randy Jones-EA
Nancy Lacorte-A
Councilman Chase-EA
Robert LaCorte-P

John Moon-P
Alice Osipowitz-A
Bob Puskas-Vice Chair - P
Arnold Schmidt-P
David Triggs –P
John Herrling –P
Chris Williams-P
Mayor Kramer- P
Fran Varacalli (Consultant) P

1. B. Puskas, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order in accordance with the Sunshine Law at 7:05pm.
2. Introductions/roll call
3. Approval of February, April, May 2017 minutes
 - February Minutes –C. MacIvor motion to approve minutes, J. Moon seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Abstentions noted by those members not present at meeting.
 - April Minutes. One correction noted. C. MacIvor made motion to approve minutes. J. Connolly seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Abstentions noted by those members not present at meeting.
 - May Minutes. Two corrections noted. C. MacIvor made motion to approve minutes. B. Lacorte seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Abstentions noted by those members not present at meeting.
4. Financial Report – No report
5. 1st opening of the meeting to the public C. William moved. MacIvor seconded, a motion to open to the meeting to the public. Motion passed unanimously.
 - A. John Loos – 39 Fisher Dr. – Spoke in favor of decreasing hunting hours at Griggstown & Negri Nepote Native Grasslands. Also asked for clearer hunting signage.
 - B. Jane McCarter – 79 Coppermine Rd. – Spoke in favor of decreasing hunting hours at Griggstown Native grass Lands. Also asked for clearer signage.
 - C. Pat Leonard – Old Georgetown Rd. – Questioned how many deer were culled during the previous hunting season.
 - D. Township Manager, B. Vornlocker, read the reports from the NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife statistics regarding the reason to your culling may have been limited last year.

E. Michael Bell-72 Coppermine Rd - discussed balance of hunting timer vs. time open to the general public.

1. New business

A. Dog Park - Discussion of a dog park in the southern part of town. The Dunn-Gunther property had deed restrictions preventing its use. Other property may be available in the future.

B. Hunting, white tail deer wildlife management program – a very long discussion ensued regarding the proper times to allow hunters and trails users at the Twp. firearm locations; Negri Nepote and Ten Mile Run Greenway. The discussion included the amount and times deer were culled in the previous year. The consultant indicated that the Trails Advisory Committee and the Wildlife Control Committee had made recommendations to the Open Space Committee to keep the firearm locations closed during firearm season(Season 3), the same as 2016-2017 season to allow for more deer to be culled and for public safety.

C. Williams made a motion for the front portion of Negri-Nepote extending from the parking lot to 100 feet past the pond of Negri-Nepote be open at all times to the public (not hunted) with signs at the end of the area saying “no trespassing active hunting in progress.” M. Battin seconded the motion.

Lacorte no, Williams yes, Maclivor no, Battin yes, Connelly yes, Schmidt yes, Triggs yes, Moon no, Herrling no, Puskas no
Yes-5, No-5 the motion does not pass.

J. Herrling motioned but to make the no hunting area at Negri-Nepote 60 acres, there was no second.

J. Herrling motioned to hunt all twp. properties following the NJDEP Fish and Game Wildlife regulations other than 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM during firearms season (season three) and open to the public from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM at the locations where firearm hunting is allowed, which is the Negri-Nepote Native Grassland Preserve and Ten Mile Run which includes Griggstown Native Grassland Preserve and a portion of Bunker Hill Natural Area near the Environmental Center. J. Moon seconded the motion.

Lacorte no, Williams yes, Maclivor no, Battin yes, Connelly yes, Schmidt yes, Triggs yes, Moon yes, Herrling yes, Puskas no
Yes-7, No-3 the motion passed.

C. Videotaping – Mayor Kramer discussed videotaping the open space committee meetings and making it available to the public and cablecasting it on FTTV.

a. D. Triggs commented in favor of videotaping because the committee makes recommendations to council regarding land purchases from the Open Space Trust Fund.

b. D. Triggs motioned to indicate to council that the open space committee was in favor of the videoing the meeting. The motion was seconded by A. Schmidt. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Correspondence from Sean Stratton of Sci-Tec requesting the use of the Griggstown Grassland preserve parking lot for one day for an experiment performed for the Navy. The

- experiment involves heating a surface to 250°. Fire prevention had commented that safety measures including fire extinguishers to be on site. A motion was made by C. MacIvor, seconded by A. Schmidt. Motion passed 9 to 1 with M. Battin voting No.
- E. Snyder's farmer requested the use of an off site property for their farm stand during the South Middlebush bridge repair to mitigate the loss of income they will suffer due to decreased traffic. Mr. Lacorte motioned that the township manager should call the owner as well as the owner of the Catalpa farm stand to discuss options. Mr. Moon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
 - F. Consultant Job description - Discussion to have the job description change for the new consultant to take minutes at the OSAC meetings. A. Schmidt made the Motion. J. Moon second the motion. Motion passed 9 to 1. B. Puskas in opposition.
2. Old Business
- A. Drones use on open space – The township manager discussed issues related to the township's ability to regulate drone use.
Discussion centered around not allowing drones to take off or land on open space.
 - D. Triggs motions that OSAC recommend to Twp. Council for the Twp. attorney to develop an ordinance regulating drone flight on twp. open spaces. A. Schmidt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
 - B. Discussion of mowing of Negri-Nepote and Griggstown Native Grasslands preserve. The Native Grassland sub committee agreed on what areas would be mowed in Fall 2017.
 - C. Historic houses-no update
 - D. Kulley Trails – the township will work with the county to develop trails on the property.
 - E. F. Varacalli gave an update on the status of Twp. farmers market.
3. A motion was made by C. MacIvor to open the meeting to the public. A. Schimdt seconded the motion. All members in favor. Motion passed. No member of the public wished to speak during the second public session. C. MacIvor made a motion to close the meeting to the public. A. Schmidt seconded the motion. All members in favor. Motion passed.
4. Executive session
- A. A motion by C. Williams and seconded by D. Triggs to go into Executive Session. Motion was passed unanimously.
 - B. A motion by C. Williams and seconded by D. Triggs was made to come out of Executive Session. Motion was passed unanimously.
5. There was a discussion about adding additional properties for deer hunting. No properties were added this year.
6. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by C. MacIvor. Seconded by D. Triggs. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45pm.