

**Franklin Township
Open Space, Recreation and Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund
Advisory Committee Session Minutes
February 15, 2018**

Melba Battin- P
Cecile McgIvor
Bill Connell-P
Jack Connolly
Bob Vornlocker- P
Mark Healy-
Randy Jones-P
Nancy Lacorte
Ted Chase-P
Tara Kenyon, AICP/PP (Consultant)

Robert LaCorte-P
John Moon-P
Alice Osipowitz-
Bob Puskas-Vice Chair P
Arnold Schmidt-P
David Triggs –P
John Herrling –
Chris Williams-
Phil Kramer-

1. Chairmen Jones Called meeting to order in accordance with the Sunshine Law provision
7:04pm

2. Introductions/roll call

Roll Call

a. OSAC b. AAC (Bob Puskas was the only member present from the AAC)

3) Presentation – Somerset County Preservation Plan

Presenters: Laura Swak, New Jersey Conservation Foundation/Consultant for Open Space portion of the Plan and Tom Boccino, Principal Planner from Somerset County Engineering Division

Tom provided background – Combination of 3 plans-Farmland, Open Space and Historic Preservation

Laura –subconsultant to Heritage Strategies, and specifically working on the Open Space and Recreation portions of the Plan

Tom referenced the Capital Facilities Plan by Somerset county place-Laura asked questions to OSAC about initiatives

–County could be helpful more in developing trails for walkers, mountain bikers, birding

-Historic-tourism

-Trails

-Engaging farmers, locally-grown foods

-Historic Sites inventory (last one federal government -1948)

-County opening properties deer hunting

Tom stated that there will be a focus on tourism and economic development in Plan.

4) 1st Opening to the Public

Puskas moved, Moon seconded a motion to opening meeting to public

Motion Passes –No public present.

Puskas moved, Moon seconded a motion to close meeting to public , motion passes.

5) Approval of Meeting Minutes

OSAC – October 17, 2017 - Puskas moved, Lacorte seconded a motion to approve October 2017 OSAC Minutes

AAC – January 18, 2018 Minutes- there was not a quorum so minutes were not approved.

6) Financial Report – 2018 OSTF Budget presented by Bob Vornlocker, Township Manager

7) New Business^[SEP]

a. Intern Assistance through Raritan Scholars Rachel Chubin, a senior in the Environmental Science Program at Rutgers University was selected as the Open Space Intern. She will provide 125 hours of service for the Spring 2018 semester.

b. Consolata Property – future use and design of property – Focus on Catalpa Park at this time

8) Old Business^[SEP]

a. Farmers Market – planning for 2018. Applications have been reformatted and sent to farmers-wants to keep to farming and not expand offerings

b. Hunting on Township-owned properties: Bob Puskas and Tara Kenyon will attend the Deer Management Symposium being held on March 19th at the Rutgers Eco-Complex.

c. Use of drones on Township Open Space- Bob Vornlocker noted state regulations changed at beginning of year so that is still under review.

d. Catalapa-Driveway has moved so it does not cross stream

9) Second opening to Public –no public present.

10) Executive Session

Lacorte moved, Puskas seconded, a motion to go into executive session Motion Passes

Adjournment at 9:35PM - Puskas moved, Schmidt seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion Passes

Respectfully submitted

Bill Connell

Secretary

Post