

**Franklin Township  
Open Space Advisory Committee Minutes  
April 17, 2018**

Melba Battin- P
Cecile McGivor A
Bill Connell-P 7:30
Jack Connolly A
Bob Vornlocker- P
Mark Healy-
Randy Jones-P
Laurie Maier
Ted Chase-P
Tara Kenyon (Consultant) P

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

1. Chairman Jones called to order in accordance with the Sunshine Law provision 7:05pm

2. Introductions/roll call

3) Approval of Meeting Minutes  
a. OSAC – March 20, 2018

4) Public Comment

- The meeting will be opened to the Public to provide time for comments and/or questions related to the agenda
- Chuck Martin was happy to hear about the lending libraries being proposed to Township parks and open spaces. There are many of these near his home in Florida, and they have been well-used and maintained by the public.

5) New Business

a\_ Discussion on Hunting Program - Summary of 2017-2018

Consultant Tara Kenyon gave summary of report being worked on. The final version will be presented in April.

Various Committee Comments:

- Bob Vornlocker informed committee he and Tara met with County Staff and learned that bow hunting on County golf courses, as previously discussed by OSAC, was unfeasible due to safety concerns and scheduling of required maintenance. The County did offer the ability to allow hunting on the South Mettlers property, which is directly adjacent to Colonial Park. Tara Kenyon will put together the required information for that request.

- Puskas noted there are several properties that could be hunted where the public cannot access

- Getting Doe population under control is a must. The use of contraceptives is too complicated and has been found to be very ineffective.

- Food Bank - paying hunters to process deer

- Bob Puskas mentioned the possibility of hunting on the leased portion of Hutchinson Memorial Forest (owned by Rutgers). This is a hot spot for deer, but Rutgers does not allow hunting on this site due to restrictions stated in the Will that conveyed the property to them.

-Wild Life Management money has been put into National Budget. We need to look out for State Block Grants

b. Lending Library at one of the preserves/parks?

- The Committee discussed and approved installing small lending library's where feasible (Griggstown and Negri-Nepote would be good options). Vornlocker commented that this would be a good Eagle Scout Project.

c. Shade Tree Plan

- Memorial Forest Plan (planting of 20-25 trees) is approximately 2 years away.

- April 28<sup>th</sup> Arbor Day.

d) Gazebo Fundraiser Motor City Revue

6) Old Business

a. Drones.

- Melba Battin asked about the status of drones at Township parks and open spaces. Bob Vornlocker responded that State regulations were modified this year to allow for drone usage, however the Township's draft ordinance does not allow for the landing and taking off of drones on Municipally-owned properties .

- Commercial use of drones is regulated by the FAA.

-Melba expressed concern about drones being used in birding areas, specifically Negri-Nepote. Bob Vornlocker stated that the ordinance, if passed by Council, should help with this concern.

b. Farmers Market

- Staff is currently planning for 2018; Items under review are:

- 7 vendors definite, entertainment or food truck; fee for a food truck needs to be decided.

- The Market has been SNAP/EBT certified; currently working on getting an EBT machine and creating the required currency system

- Shuttle is being organized to transport those in need to the Market; looking at senior housing developments and other sites along Hamilton Street.

- Dates: every Saturday from June 2<sup>nd</sup> – September 22<sup>nd</sup> from 10AM – 2PM; all Market days are held at the Township Complex, except the last day which is held as part of Franklin Day at Colonial Park.

c Updates – Historic Structures <sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>.

- Gunther is on schedule for moth-balling this summer

- Van Wickle - long process, Meadows, state grants and franklin , historic architect

d. Replacing Plaque at Negri

– John Herrling stated that the plaque for John Loos' son at Negri-Nepote has been damaged for some time and needs to be replaced. Bob Vornlocker responded that the plaque has been ordered and will be installed by DPW when it comes in.

7) Committee Reporters

- Deer Seminar – Bob Puskas and Tara Kenyon attended the Deer Symposium at Rutgers Ecocomplex on May 21<sup>st</sup>; very informative.

- Stream Clean-up

8) Executive Session

- Bob Puskas made a motion to enter closed session, which was seconded by Bob Lacorte. All agreed and the Committee entered Executive Session to discuss property negotiations.

8) Adjournment

- Bob Puskas made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Arnold Schmidt. All agreed and the meeting was adjourned at 9:15PM.

Respectfully submitted

Bill Connell

Secretary

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