

**Franklin Township
Open Space Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes of the February 20, 2024**

Bob Puskas	<i>Chair/AAAC</i>	A			A
Arnold Schmidt	<i>Vice Chair/Citizen Member</i>	A	Robert LaCorte	<i>Historic Commission</i>	P
Bill Connell	<i>Secretary/Citizen Member</i>	P	John Moon	<i>Recreation Commission</i>	P
Tara Kenyon	<i>Consultant</i>	P	David Triggs	<i>Citizen Member</i>	P
Bob Vornlocker	<i>Town Manager</i>	P	Ted Chase	<i>Planning Board</i>	P
Mark Healy	<i>Town Planner</i>	A	Stephanie Sprague Chodl	<i>Citizen Member</i>	P
Phillip Kramer	<i>Mayor</i>	P	John Herrling	<i>Citizen Member</i>	P
Ed Potasnak	<i>Council Liaison</i>	A	Mary Lauko	<i>Shade Tree Commission</i>	A
Robyn Suydam	<i>Environmental Commission</i>	P	Vanessa Jones	<i>Trails Advisory Committee</i>	A

CALL TO ORDER IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6)

Mayor Kramer called meeting to order 7:03pm.

Roll Call

Annual Reorganization of the Franklin Township Open Space Advisory Committee

a. Lacorte moved , Connell Seconded, a motion to appoint , Robert Puskas as Committee Chair

Motion passes unanimously

b. Triggs moved, Lacorte seconded a motion to appoint Arnold Schmidt as Vice Chair. Motion passes Unanimously

c. Lacorte moved. Triggs , seconded a motion to appoint William Connell as Secretary, motion passes Unanimously

PUBLIC SESSION

Bob LaCorte made a motion to open the first Public Session of the meeting, which was seconded by David Triggs. All agreed and the meeting was opened to the public.

Tony Gaylord 37 County Road 518 -Regarding illegal hunting

10 people permitted on 140 acres

Spent several minutes describing various violations but unpermitted hunters.

Including “feed bags” and illegal blinds .

Gave idea about using long lasting signs (UV ink and Vinyl Substrates) and made recommendations on wording.

Ann Marie Walesky Vice Chair of Trails committee introduced herself to OSAC

Bob LaCorte made a motion to close the first Public Session of the meeting, which was seconded by David Triggs. All agreed and the meeting first Public Session was concluded.

APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 2023 MEETING MINUTES

Triggs moved ,

FINANCIAL REPORT

Tara Kenyon presented the monthly Financial Report. After discussion, David Triggs made a motion to approve, which was seconded by Herrling . All agreed and the motion carried.

Triggs asked about utility charges on OSAC budget. Each park has a meter for water and electric

In addition, Town Manager Bob Vornlocker spoke positively regarding the work Tara Kenyon she does on behalf of the committee.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Meadows Foundation Funding
They maintain 4 house (Van Wickle , Wycoff , Hageman Farm, Van Liew Suydam)
Meadows is experiencing cash flow issues due to low membership . They need help covering operating bills allowable in the Open Space Charter
Lacorte made a motion to approve sending approval to council, which was seconded by Connell .
All agreed and the motion carried.

- b. Pathways and Trails
Updated trails plan, updated. GPS all trails
Review and prepare for open public session by next meeting
Plan should include shovel ready projects that are needed to qualify for grants.

- c. Dunn Diversion
Scoping Hearing set for April 3rd. Need to publish two notices. Signs are posted.
it was noted that people are not reading the sign completely. The Diversion is just the house property 2 acres and move driveway.

- d. Plaque honoring Melba Battin
Puskas moved, Connell seconded motion to approve \$300.00 10 x 10 bronze plaque honoring Melba Battin, (It will be similar to Sept 11 plaque in front of Township Libray

- e. Abandon Trail Bed Clyde
Robyn Suydam raised the idea of turning the Clyde to 27 section into a rail trail

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Neman Williams Grant . (Sustainable Jersey)
Work has commenced on grant. Paths have been paved and drains. Channels
May be added as well
-it came up that Leewood has not been a responsive neighbor in cleaning up
The adjacent property

CONSULTANT'S MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT

The Committee reviewed the Report submitted by Tara Kenyon.

John Herring made a motion to approve, which was seconded by Ted Chase. All agreed and motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Environmental Commission: Robyn Suydam reported
 - Stream clean -Lower Raritan April 13. 9:30-12 - Sealys run , by IHOP on Easton
 - Save the Mow till Earth Day) -April 22th.-it helps the pollinators to wait
 - March 11th Kiss the Ground Movie 7pm BOE Woody Harrelson discussing regenerating soil
- b. Trails: Tara Kenyon Reporter June 1st is National Trails Day at day at Bunker Hill. A watershed based program

PUBLIC SESSION

Lacorte made a motion to open the first Public Session of the meeting, which was seconded by Suydam. All agreed and the meeting was opened to the public.

Councilman Wright made some affirming remarks to committee discussions including working to gain Leewood's cooperation in cleaning up the area

Lacorte made a motion to close the second Public Session of the meeting, which was seconded by Suydam All agreed and the meeting second Public Session was concluded.

Execution Session

LaCorte moved to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Connell. All agreed and the meeting was adjourned at

ADJOURNMENT

Bob LaCorte moved to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by John Herring. All agreed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:47

Respectfully Submitted,

Bill Connell
Secretary