

**Franklin Township
Open Space Advisory Committee
Minutes
February 21, 2012**

Melba Battin-P
Robert Mettler
Bill Connell-P-
Jack Connolly-P
Craig Novick
Mark Healey-P
Randy Jones-P
Richard Seamon-
Ted Chase-P

Robert LaCorte-P
John Moon
Alice Osipowitz-P
Bob Puskas-P
Arnold Schmidt-P
David Triggs -P
John Herring -P
Chris Williams-P

1. Call to order Meeting was called to order by Chairman Jones in accordance with the Sunshine Law at 7:00pm Members present indicated above by (P).
2. Chairman Jones asked for a Motion to pass the January 17 Open Space Advisory Committee meeting minutes. Committeewoman Battin asked for the minutes in 10A to be deleted as it was not accurate and 10E to be amended and clarified. Committeeman Herring asked for clarification to item 7e. The minutes will be clarified to reflect the Garden State Preservation Trust Funds will be depleted at the end of 2012 if a stable source of funding is not implemented by the State. This will result in no matching funds from the State for open space and farmland preservation deals. Jack made a motion to approve the minutes with the requested changes. Chris Williams seconded the Motion. Motion carried.
3. Jack made a Motion to open the meeting o the public. Arnie seconded the motion. Motion carried. There being no one from the public to address the Committee Arnie made a motion to close the public session. Jack seconded the motion and the motion carried.
4. Financial Report, No report was given due to Financial Director being on vacation.
5. New Business
 - a. Wayne McCabe, Historic Consultant, Franklin Township, Reported the historic structures report is nearly complete but a few conditions require immediate attention, for the estimated sum of \$87,150.00 as listed in Memo to Mark Healey dated February 14, 2014 Lacorte Moved, Schmidt Seconded Motion to seek bids for the project stated on the list. Motion Passes.
 - b. Additional discussion ensued regarding the Historic component of the Open Space charter and assessing the financial potential of the buildings. Puskas moved, Connolly seconded a motion a request for regularly scheduled audits of the Meadows Foundation properties under it's charge. Motion passes.
 - c. McCabe reported a review of the towns agreements with the Meadows Foundation reveal that their responsible is for the the management and day to day operation of each building. The town is still responsible large facility repairs.

- d. Osipowitz presented more detail about the potential Middlebush trails plan. Due to the fluid nature of Middlebush park as a whole. Varacalli was requested to go back to green acres and see if we can scale back the project.
- e. Osipowitz spring walks and science programs will be posted
- f. Healey reported the final recreation needs study will be presented in a special counsel meeting March 6th
To this Mark Healey, Township Director of Planning, added that the Preservation and Recreation Needs Assessment and Action Plan study just completed by Brandstetter Carroll has included in its recommendation that a certain percentage be allotted for maintenance and Stewardship of Township Park, open space and Historic properties. (via additional allotment of OSAC funding).
A conversation ensued regarding the plan including
-as parks expand, more public works employees should be added
-Puskas suggested a standard recreation allotment like we do for Historic.
This idea had been brought up before and will be revisited
- g. Varacalli requested additional hats for Trails committee promotion
Connell moved, Williams's seconded motion to get additional hats.
- h. Negri-Nepoti Invasive Species Day. March 31, Rain Date April 14th.
Herling moved, Connell seconded motion to approve dates Motion Passes

6. Old Business

- a. Approval of funds for Audubon contract going to council Feb 28th. Chris Williams to follow up.
- b. Lacorte moved, Connell seconded approval to have April 17th OSAC meeting at Van Liew-Suyman-280 South Middlebush Road
Motion Passes

7. Connell moved, Schmidt seconded motion to Open second opening to public
Motions passes
There being no one from the public present Lacorte made a Motion to Close meeting to the public. Connell seconded, motion to close meeting to public
Motion passes

8. Executive Session

Puskas moved, Connell seconded motion to go into Executive Session

Connell Moved, Williams seconded, motion to adjourn, Motion Pass 9:15
Connell moved and Williams seconded a motion to leave executive session.
Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bill Connell
Secretary