

**Franklin Township
Open Space, Recreation and Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund
Advisory Committee
Minutes
June 19, 2012**

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

Robert LaCorte-P
John Moon-P
Alice Osipowitz-
Bob Puskas-P
Arnold Schmidt-P
David Triggs -P
John Herrling-P
Chris Williams-P
Phil Kramer (MP Liaison)-P

1. Call to order Meeting was called to order by Chairman Jones in accordance with the Sunshine Law at 7:02pm Members present indicated above by (P).
2. Minutes: None Submitted
3. Financial Report. Financial report dated was reviewed. The balance in the OSTF is \$10,420,887.38 Connell moved, Williams seconded motion to except report. Motion Passes
4. Open first opening to public: Connell Moved, Connolly seconded motion to open first open session.
Pat Leonard, 73 Old Georgetown
-Commented that some of the trails in Griggstown are being mowed wider and wider. Also in some areas, ruts in the ground are forming.
-Concerned wire frame signs are a danger. Once sign is blown out, wire becomes invisible. It can be a danger to people and may damage mowers/
-Committee will confirm if mowing instructions are being followed.
-Williams commented possibly adjusting path
-Committee will review signs ideas.
Connell moved, Puskas seconded motion to close public session
5. New Business
 - a. Wayne McCabe, Historic Consultant presented Historic Structures report.
A review of major structures issues and electricity systems
-It was discussed all work must be done for prevailing wage.
-It was discussed to divest Township of Tulipwood and Dunn house.
-Tulipwood on the National Historic Register.
-Pleasant Plains school house (currently in front of Municipal Building) will be used for storage
- Van Wickle house flooded during Irene, All systems moved upstairs

-Kingston school (in addition to other work), requires new boiler. Lacorte moved, Puskas seconded to divest Kingston School From ROSI (Recreation Open Space Inventory) and approve additional \$20,000 for additional work for a total of \$107,150.00. Motion passes

NOTES ON MOTION:

-removing Kingston school from ROSI will expand potential usage of property.

- Initial Motion from February

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, 2012

b. Historic Grant Signs: A discussion regarding putting a plaque up noting when Open Space money has been used for Historic Grants. The discussion was expanded to include when Open Space monies have been used for other projects. By way of example Little League field lights. Lacorte moved Puskas seconded motion to create plaque acknowledging use of Open Space funds. Motion passes with (1) Nay.

c. Summer Help. Reviewed work list
It was noted Williams concern about disrupting nesting areas. Recommend that no work will be done in this area.

d. NJ Audubon: (at this time Chairman Jones recused himself from discussion) F. Varacalli to commission a report on the current conditions of the Negri Nepote Native Grassland and Griggstown Native Grassland Preserves in order to maintain and properly manage the properties. Williams moved, Lacorte Seconded Motion to approve working with NJ Audubon Motion Passes.

6. Old Business.

a. Nature Walks

May 20 Griggstown attendance (12) Negri Nepote(10)

Notable sightings include Blue Grosbeak, Dick Thistle and Vespa Sparrows

Williams mentioned the Bird Watching website tool below

<http://birding.aba.org/maillist/NJ01>

b. Hunting program was approved. August 6th Final Report will be available

7. Executive Session

Puskas Moved, Lacorte seconded, motion to adjourn, Motion Pass 9:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bill Connell
Secretary