

**Franklin Township
Open Space, Recreation and Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund
Advisory Committee
Minutes February 18, 2013**

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| Melba Battin- |
| Robert Mettler-P |
| Bill Connell-P |
| Jack Connolly-P |
| Bob Vornlocker-P |
| Mark Healy-P |
| Randy Jones-P |
| Julia Presley- |
| Ted Chase-P |

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

Call to order Meeting was called to order by Varacalli in accordance with the Sunshine Law at 7:00pm Members present indicated above by (P). .

1. Review of Minutes. Vote postponed to March meeting
2. Financial Report: Connell moved , Connolly second motion to approve financial Report
3. Open first opening to public: Connell Moved, Williams seconded motion to open first open session.
Seeing no one
Connolly moved, Williams Seconded motion to close to the public

4. New Business

- a. Varacalli reported the last time the Open Space Plan was updated was May of the year 2000. It is agreed we need to Update plan , but also in order to reapply for Sustainable NJ Bronze we must update plan every six years.

At this time a subcommittee was formed to help advise staff.

- b. Varacalli presented the 2013 Open Space Trust fund Budget, A discussion ensued regarding the additional staffing cost

Included in the budget.
Williams moved, Herrling Seconded motion to approve 2013 OSAC budget as presented. Motion approved

(At this time Puskas brought up the status of the five pieces of equipment purchased)

- c. Varacalli reported once again we are once again creating two slots of summer help to work on and clean up trails

- d. Open Space Volunteer Days
A work day at Negri Nepoti is being planned in April TBD
Environmental Committee is planning a Clean up April 20h
Shade Tree is planning a Tree planning at Memorial Park
April 27th

- e. Varacalli reported that the D&R canal rep has requested a sign on Middlebush Road. Since this is a county road they are having a meeting January 24th. She then reviewed sign color and proper distance requirements which will have an effect on placement and effectiveness of the sign.

- f. Varacalli announced that the April 2013 Open Space Meeting will be at be at the Van Winkle house on Easton Avenue across from the Demotte Lane Intersection

5. Old Business.

- a. Varacalli announced a Trail Blazing event at Middlebush Park March 3rd
- b. Vornlocker reported that the expense of the Trail Sign on South Middlebush Road will be paid for by the D&R canal commission. In addition the county will not require flashing lights so it will just be a static sign
- c. Review of the North –South Bike Trail is back with County Attorney General
- d. Additional discussion was had regarding the use of private entities and the perceived avocations of their policies.

Connell moved, Herrling Seconded .Motion to request Council for permission to put disclaimer on all forms stating that Signatures do not

imply and agreement with the policies or bi-laws of the sponsoring group. Motion passes with (1) Nay

6. Consent Agenda

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7. Second Opening to Public-No one present

8. Committee Reports

Schmidt Reported on May 6th, the Environmental Commission will be hosting a Seminar regarding the Eastern Coyote, presented by New Jersey Fish and Wild Life

9. Executive Session Connell Moved, Mettlar Seconded motion to go into executive session

10. At this time Bob La Corte reiterated his belief that it is beyond the scope of the committees charter to pass judgment or advocate policy any groups it interacts with .

Connell Moved, Connolly seconded, motion to adjourn, Motion Pass 9:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Bill Connell
Secretary