

**Franklin Township
Open Space, Recreation and Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund
Advisory Committee
Minutes Sept 17th, 2013**



Melba Battin-P
Robert Mettler-EA
Bill Connell-P
Jack Connolly-P
Bob Vornlocker-
Mark Healy-
Randy Jones-P
Julia Presley-
Ted Chase-P
Fran Varacalli (Consultant)

Robert LaCorte-P
John Moon-P
Alice Osipowitz-
Bob Puskas-EA
Arnold Schmidt-P
David Triggs -P
John Herrling-EA
Chris Williams-P
Phil Kramer-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. Introductions/roll call
3. Approval of June June 18, 2013 minutes Triggs moved, /Moon Seconded, Motion to approve June Minutes with correction
4. Financial Report-No Reported Presented.
5. 1st opening of the meeting to the public-No Public
6. New Business
 - a. Rock Pyramid structure, Griggstown –Orange Trail
Varacalli, show pictured pyramid made by person. This type of pyramid may promote behavior that damages the surrounding and environment.
Varacalli requested to post note on kiosk, A memo stating, please don't make a habit of it.
 - b. Vandalism was reported at Griggstown , including gates
 - c. PSE&G , will clear out brush at Negri Nepote, but will not be applying herbicides.
And they will also mow underneath the towers

- Reported rumor, got a bid for eight-foot fence for Hutchinson Forest.
- He is concerned the offset deer population will be spread into town
- d. Parking at Middlebush Park. , There was not enough parking.
- e. La Corte mentioned Skateboard Park needs to be moved and refurbished.

7. Old business

- a. Open Space Plan – update No Update.... Planning board did not meet
- b. Update on Middlebush Park Improvements and Trail
 - Pink Trail on northwest corner of park is completed.
 - Schmidt pointed out that the light bid came in at \$361,000 dollars
 - Phase 4 bids came in for \$2,100,000 dollars
- c. Native grasslands sub committee
 - i. Invasive Management and PSE&G maintenance
 - Negri Nepoti was fine
 - Mugwart was sprayed at Griggstown, and needs to be redone.
 - Batten reported Mugwart along fence , Varacalli will request public works to take care of patch.
 - A larger discussion on invasive issues through out the Negri Nepoti property Ex-Consultant John Loos is considering forming a committee to manage invasive species
- d. NJ Audubon walks update
 - Williams reported Summer Walk.... (15) People in July (9-10) on August Walk
- e. North-South Trail update Draft MOA approved
- f. NJKIG- Status of Permanent source of GSPT funds through the proposed State Sales Tax- It never got out of legislation
- g. Hunting Program 2013-2014.... Signs are up....
- h. Park and Open Space signs
 - Jones, suggested standardized signage, Create a Town wide Specifications, the committee agreed
- i. Historic District interest sign. Going out for Bid

8. Consent Agenda

- a. Open Space consultant's work-log
- Announcements, reports from other Committee's
- Wild Turkey Seminar, October 21st

10. 2nd opening of the meeting to the public-no one present

11. Executive Session to discuss matters

Lacorte moved, Connell seconded Motion to go into executive session involving litigation, personnel or real estate matters

12. Adjourn Lacorte moved, Connell Seconded Motion to adjourn, motion passes

Respectfully submitted

Bill Connell
Secretary