

**Franklin Township  
Open Space, Recreation and Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund  
Advisory Committee  
Minutes Sept 15, 2015**



Melba Battin-P
<b>Cecile</b> Maclvor P
Bill Connell-P
Jack Connolly P
Bob Vornlocker-P
Mark Healy-
Randy Jones-7:10
Nancy LaCorte-A
Ted Chase-A
Fran Varacalli (Consultant) P

Robert LaCorte-A
John Moon-A
Alice Osipowitz-
Bob Puskas-Vice Chair P
Arnold Schmidt-P
David Triggs -P
John Herrling P
Chris Williams-P
Phil Kramer-P

**Dates to Remember**

Canal **Walk and Roll** upcoming date: Sept 20<sup>th</sup> Rain date Sept 27<sup>th</sup>

1. **Call to order in accordance with the Sunshine Law provision**
2. **Introductions/roll call**
3. **Approve May Minutes**  
A. Schmidt made a motion to approve the May minutes as amended. J. Connelly seconded. All members in favor. Motions Passes.
4. **Financial Report**  
Varacalli reported the current OSTF balance is \$17,300,000.00.
5. **1st opening of the meeting to the public**  
Seeing no one from the public present. The meeting is not opened to the public.
6. **New Business**
  - a. B. Vornlocker gave overview of Open Public Meetings Act /Open Public Records Act.
  - b. The Trails Advisory Committee made a recommendation to the OSAC to further recommend to Twp. Council to add the new trails at Middlebush Park and existing trails at Inman Park to the Ordinance Chapter 260. B. Puskas made a motion to recommend Twp. Council add the new trails at Middlebush Park to the Ordinance Chapter use 260. C. Williams seconded. All members in favor. Motion passes. An updated park / open space list of trails will be posted to Twp. website.

## 7. Old Business

- a. F. Varacalli reported the National Trails Day event in June at in Inman Park was successful.
- b. Kingston School –The Township is very close to a final lease agreement. The lease agreement was sent to NJDEP Green Acres for approval.
- c. Twp. Native grassland management. Fields are scheduled to be mowed this Fall and DPW will spot sprayed for invasives.  
Williams expressed his concern about the timing of mowing. F. Varacalli responded that the mowing schedule was agreed to by the Grassland Committee that C. Williams serves on. Schmidt asked about prescribed burns. Varacalli responded that it may not be needed, at least for now, in addition, they are very hard to organize and get approval.
- d. Deer Survey. A discussion ensued if the Town should consider commission a new deer survey. If the decision is to commission a deer survey, the question is...what will be done with the data that is gained? Is the Survey necessary for the relatively cost. Recommendation that F. Varacalli research what others Towns are doing.

## 8. 2<sup>nd</sup> Opening to the Public

- B. Puskas made a motion to open the meeting to the public. B. Connell seconded. All members in favor. Motion passes.  
Bill Bowman, Franklin Reporter. Asked why committee members do not have Township Email Addresses. It was explained committee members are not employees or elected officials so they do not have public emails.
- C. McIvor made a motion to close the public meeting session. B. Connell seconded. All members in favor. Motion Passes.

## 9. Announcements

B. Puskas stated that the State is public auctioning farm land for lease. The Minimum Bid Doubled From Past.

Franklin Day Festival. Shade Tree, Trails and Environment will share a Table.

C. Williams reported Franklin has again been named “A Shade Tree City”.

B. Puskas made a motion to go into moved, MacIver seconded, motion to go into Executive Session. Motion Passes.

Connell moved, Herrling seconded motion to Adjourn. Motion Passes 9:04pm

Respectfully submitted

Bill Connell  
Secretary

