

**Frelinghuysen Township Open Space Advisory Commission
Minutes of April 4, 2007**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Robin Randolph at 7:10 p.m.

Announcement of Proper Notice

Notice of this meeting was provided by advertising in the Star Gazette and New Jersey Herald, the official newspapers of the Township of Frelinghuysen, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Action may be taken at the meeting as advertised.

Attendance

Members present: Maureen Cullen, Tom Finn, Brenda Kleber, Nancy Nicholoff, and Robin Randolph

Members absent: Charlie Marra, Tom Charles

Audience: Alan DeCarolis

Minutes

Brenda Kleber made a motion to approve the revised March 7, 2007 minutes, seconded by Tom Finn, all – aye.

Old Business

Nancy Nicholoff told how the website is up and available to use. An overview will be given for each committee at the offsite township meeting on April 14th by John Jurena. John would like input from each committee for web page development.

All invites have been mailed for the offsite township meeting, which will be held on April 14, 2007, for all committees and commissions to get together and let everybody have a chance to work together. The meeting will be held at the Presbyterian Camp from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Friday April 27, from 7-8:30 p.m. will be the Native Invasive Program presented by the Nature Conservancy. Maureen Cullen shared some additional flyers and advertisements. Robin Randolph will talk with Eric Olsen to see if he has something similar to what Maureen showed. She will meet with Maureen to finalize any additional information.

Sign information: Waiting for the motto contest to be complete in May. To date there are approximately 20 entries. This contest has been posted locally and on the web page.

The Alanthus Tree Removal is scheduled for May 19, 2007. Charlie Marra will organize chain saws. Removal is scheduled to start at 9 a.m. with lunch at Noon, leaving time in the afternoon open in case removal is not finished in the morning. Robin Randolph will organize.

Nancy Nicholoff is working on Public Access listings. She has gone through the tax maps for location, accessibility and features of future sites. She is working to get it on

the web page. David Gill sent her some information back but not a complete set. She is continuing to work on this.

Tom Finn has searched some Township websites and found one (New Paltz) that had a vision map which would be a good source for us to use while getting ours started. He handed a copy to each member present. Wants to do a Township survey and survey various groups in the town. It was stated that Debra Natyzak has information from the early 1990's on a previous survey. Alan DeCarolis offered to get the OS committee a copy of this information. Some of this information will be how many surveys sent out and how many came back. Questions being asked are how to survey either website or mail. Alan DeCarolis also gave information on getting a bulk rate for a postage paid return.

Angeleri property: Closing documentation has gone to Green Acres. Reimbursement is expected back to the general fund.

Riviello property: Has closed. Cari Wild, NJ Natural Lands Management is being invited to the May Meeting. This property will be passive recreation.

Schweitzer and Stern properties: On hold

Smith Ball fields: Potential 2007 purchase – will review in mid-May. Maureen Cullen had spoken to Brian Badlowski, Baseball League, and he stated that if the property was purchased, he could have these ball fields up and running this year and has everything to get it done.

Reisberg property: Presented a resolution to pursue the purchase of this property, some members had questions. Robin Randolph responded. Debra Natyzak also submitted different issues regarding the acquisition.

- Insurance liability: David Boynton contacted the township insurance agency and discovered that the current coverage would be acceptable. Water areas containing earthen dams would require additional coverage.
- Green Acres Interest: Jennifer McCulloch, MLC, contacted Kim Testa of NJ Green Acres. They investigated the property for purchase in 1996. Green Acres is not interested in purchase at this time.
- Acquisition Plan: Robin Randolph mentioned 2 funding options that Morris Land Conservancy will apply for after Township approval: Green Acres matching grant and Warren County Municipal and Charitable Conservancy Trust grant. A package of funding options will be presented to the Township Committee at their April 18th meeting.
- Contract vs. Option: Saw no reason.
- Appraisals: Jennifer McCulloch sent out for 2 bid appraisals and will comment on those by the May Meeting.
- Jennifer McCulloch is preparing a project reference map.

Tom Finn made a motion to draft a resolution to the Township Committee for supporting the development of a grant to the Warren County Municipal and Charitable Conservancy Trust for acquisition of the Reisberg property, seconded by Nancy Nicholoff. All in favor – aye.

New Business

Leigh Kramer is a new member of the OS Advisory Committee, replacing Ellen Karlsson.

As of March 30, 2007, there is \$190,386.39 in the Open Space/Farmland Trust Fund. Brenda will check with the auditor about depositing quarterly rather than the full year in December.

Tom Finn is still working with David Gill for information on Conservation and preservation and Frelinghuysen land inventory. He will continue to work on this.

Robin Randolph handed a copy of the OS Action Register to all members present.

Correspondence

None

Public Comment

Alan DeCarolis asked for clarity on issues discussed during the meeting. Robin Randolph responded to all questions asked.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm with a motion by Tom Finn, seconded by Brenda Kleber. All members present in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Zilberfarb
Open Space Commission Secretary