

**Frelinghuysen Township Open Space Advisory Commission
Minutes of May 7, 2008**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Robin Randolph at 6:50 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: Robin Randolph, Alan DeCarolis, Leigh Kramer and Nancy Nicholoff

Members absent: Tom Finn, Maureen Cullen, and Cliff Kimball

Minutes

Leigh Kramer made a motion to approve the revised April 2, 2008 minutes, seconded by Nancy Nicholoff, all in favor – aye.

Old Business

- Forestry Management Plan – Nancy Nicholoff sent document to Township Committee for approval of the governing body resolution form, which was approved at the April meeting it, will now get sent to the Department of Environmental Protection.

Ms. Nicholoff has also picked a consultant who is an arborist from Hanover Township. She is currently working on Hanover Townships Plan and then will contact us midsummer as to whether she will be supporting us. The Township has a 2 year time limit to complete the Plan once we have executed the Plan Agreement. Once the Plan is approved then we can be reimbursed \$3,000.00.

- Native/Invasive Resource Books – Township Committee approved \$50.00 for the books. Robin Randolph will bring a list of books to the Environmental Meeting to move forward.
- Trust Fund – Balance for month ending April 2008: \$56,437.21 in the regular account and \$97,748.75 in the interest bearing account – combined total in the open space and farmland preservation account is: \$154,185.96.

Robin Randolph also received an analysis of the open space tax. Ms. Randolph raised a concern that the second half of the years open space tax is not put into the trust fund. Ms. Randolph's thoughts are that the money should be in the trust fund and then debited out of that fund. This provides a history for open space/farmland debits and credits.

Ms. Randolph would like to bring the thought to the Township Committee.

Nancy Nicholoff made a motion to send a letter to the Township Committee to have tax going to Open Space be put into the Open Space Trust Fund and not the general account, seconded by Leigh Kramer, all aye. Alan DeCarolis suggested sending the letter with the backup analysis.

- Adam Assenza, watershed ambassador, will be coming to the June 4th meeting. An invitation should go out to the Environmental group. Donna Zilberfarb will send an invite to them.
- Red Oak Tree Placement – Looking to plant in September. Possibly diagonal from the other oak tree.
- Webpage updates – Nancy Nicholoff stated that there were 3 things remaining and John Jurena is applying changes as he gets them.
- Nancy Nicholoff inquired about the survey status and Ms. Randolph explained that once the budget is passed the Planning Board will be sending it out. Ms. Nicholoff also inquired about the Ordinance. Ms. Randolph has not heard about the 2nd reading but is assuming it has passed but will check to determine the status.
- MLC Report – Was discussed during executive session

New Business

- Warren County Open Space Plan – Robin Randolph attended meeting. The county has just recently updated their plan. It shows projected and targeted areas but there is nothing in it regarding trails of old roads. Robin Randolph will email all Open Space members the website to view the plan.
- Open Space Letter regarding Parks and Open Spaces – Ms. Randolph compiled letters to go to the Governor, Assemblypersons and the Senator to save our parks. Donna Zilberfarb will get copies to Brenda Kleber and get Ms. Randolph added to the agenda for the Township Committee agenda for approval of the letters. Once the letters are approved Ms. Randolph will send out.

Public Session

Executive Session

A motion was made by Alan DeCarolis to go into Executive Session, seconded by Leigh Kramer.

There was no action taken.

A motion was made by Alan DeCarolis to end Executive Session, seconded by Nancy Nicholoff. Executive session ended at 7:41p.m.

Correspondence

All correspondence was reviewed.

- Nature Conservancy – Citizen Science Program
- NJ Audubon Society Skylands Birding and Wildlife Trails Guide – Trail Naming

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. with a motion by Leigh Kramer, seconded by Nancy Nicholoff. All members present in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Zilberfarb
Open Space Commission Secretary