

Readington Township Open Space Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

May 3, 2017

Attendance:

Member	JAN 4	FEB 1	MAR 1	APR 5	MAY 3	JUN 7	AUG 2	SEP 6	OCT 4	NOV 1
Mrs. Allen	X	X	X	X	X					
Mr. Becker	X	X	X	X	X					
Mr. Heller	X		X	X	X					
Mr. Huelsebusch	X	X	X	X	X					
Dr. Hendrickson	X	X			X					
Dr. Kelly	X	X	X							
Mrs. Madon	X	X	X	X	X					
Mrs. Duffy	X		X	X						
Mr. John	X	X	X	X	X					
Mr. Klotz	X	X	X	X	X					
Mrs. Owen	X	X	X	X	X					

Members of the public: Daniel Stoops, Lynnette Skowronek.

1. The Chairman calls the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. announcing that all laws governing the Open Public Meetings Act have been met and that this meeting has been duly advertised.

2. Communications / Meeting Calendar / Monthly Walks / Event Updates:
 - a. Mr. Klotz announced the May walk, which will be held on May 21 at the Lazy Brook Greenway. Perhaps a strip of grass could be mowed along Summer Road between the south end of Pleasant Run Greenway and Lazy Brook Greenway. A neighbor on Summer Road is willing to do this. There could also be a pole put there to indicate the trail.

 - b. Buffalo Watch at Readington River Farm will take place on May 13 from 9:00 to 5:00. Mrs. Owen will speak with Jeff Herzog or Scarlett Doyle to see if the OSAB could have a table at the event.

 - c. Also on May 13, the County will have a trail building session starting at Deer Path Park. A trail loop will be completed on Round Mountain.

 - d. the OSAB will have a table at Pickell Park on Memorial Day. All Board members are welcome to help out between approximately 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., with the busiest time being after the Memorial Day parade ends. Route 523 will close at approximately 9:00.

3. Approval of the minutes: Mr. Klotz made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2017 meeting. It was seconded by Mr. Heller and unanimously approved.

4. Correspondence: A letter was received from Boy Scout Troop 1969 notifying us that two scouts who did projects for the Township will have their Courts of Honor on June 4, 2017, at 1:00 p.m. The Open Space Advisory Board sponsored and supervised one of them, Andrew Gallagher, who built trails, put up a kiosk, a mini kiosk, three benches, and trail markers at the Forest Hill Preserve. Chairman Huelsebusch will refer the matter to the Township for the resolutions of congratulation from the Township Committee to be prepared. The assigned supervisor or another member of the sponsoring body usually attends the Court of Honor.

5. Regular Reports:

Farmland Preservation and Green Acres Developments:

Mrs. Allen mentioned that \$550,000 had come in to the Township with the last Planning Incentive Grant (PIG). Were any of the grant funds left unused and put into a fund for future projects? Starting in 2018, the Township will begin accruing money for future projects.

Hunterdon County Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee Updates:

Mr. Huelsebusch had nothing to report. The next meeting will be May 15.

Environmental Commission Updates:

As the last two meetings have been cancelled, there is nothing to report.

Readington Township Updates:

Mr. John will see if Mrs. Duffy has made any progress regarding the “**dogs** must be on **leash**” and “**no** motorized **vehicles**” signs. Dr. Hendrickson said that his wife will write an article for the Citizens for Readington paper about these ordinances.

6. Old and Ongoing Business:

The Hunterdon Tree Commission will do a tree inventory of trees along county roads in the Township, according to Dr. Hendrickson. On May 20 Raritan Headwaters will have a tree planting at 139 Pleasant Run Road. The Township Committee would like to discuss potential hunting properties at its May 15 meeting.

7. New Business:

a. There will be a meeting of the Trails Committee on May 10 at 7:00 p.m.

b. Mrs. Owen pointed out that the native grass field, which is located near the kiosk of the Cole Road Greenway, needs mowing. It should get three mowings a season so that the Readington Trail Association is able to fully use it.

c. Mr. Klotz will draft maps showing the Department of Public Works which trails need to be mowed for the Seventh Grade Walk in the Woods. Trails need to be mowed before May 30th.

d. Mrs. Allen stated that the Profeta Farm tour will take place on June 10 at 10:00 a.m. There will be no bus. Just meet at the farm stand on the corner of Summer Road and Route 202. Parking is also available at Summer Road Park.

e. Mr. Becker previously emailed his report to the Board.

f. The tree seedling give-away was a success. There were 15 people helping, including Board members and volunteers. Two hundred ten to two hundred fifteen people came. The biggest demand is for conifers, redbuds, and other flowering trees. We must plan an effective way to get the information on the trees to the public. We must also try to fix the bottleneck that occurs on Route 523. Perhaps start earlier (9:00 - 12:00 instead of 10:00 - 1:00). We could also have someone hand out a list of trees to people as they enter to give them a chance to peruse it. What is the most effective way to label the trees? Perhaps a label maker, with labels to stick on the trunks. There are 40 to 50 unplanted trees left, 150 trees total when including those put into pots.

g. It was suggested that Board members try to think about where to plant flowers and plants for pollinators.

8. Comments from the Public:

Lynnette Skowronek said that she had fun participating in the tree give-away. She and Mr. Becker will lead the Seventh Grade Walk in the Woods walks on May 30 and 31.

9. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.