

**Franklin Township Open Space Advisory Committee Minutes  
Tuesday, June 20, 2006**

1. **Call to order in accordance with the Sunshine Law provision.** At 7:30, a quorum was present and Chairman Jones called the meeting to order in accordance with the Sunshine Law.\
2. **Introductions/roll call.** Present were members Jones, Danile, Kaiser, Moon, Connolly and Battin. Arriving later was Kanarek. Also present was Consultant Loos.
3. **Approval of the May 16, 2006.** A motion was made by Danile and seconded by Connolly to approve the May 16, 2006 minutes. Motion carried.
4. **Financial Report.** Loos gave a financial report, as follows:

Bonds	Original amount of bonds	Balance available in bonds	Total available to purchase property
Bond Ordinance 3256, 3293, 3369, 3401	\$14,400,000.00	\$2,491,161.94	
Bond Ordinance 3155, 3183, 3228 & 3364	<u>\$9,671,150.00</u>	<u>\$1,101,753.01</u>	-
	\$24,071,150.00	\$3,592,914.95	\$3,592,914.95

<u>Grants</u>	
Green Acres--Negri	\$600,000.00
Green Acres--Negri	\$600,000.00
Green Acres--Negri	\$260,000.00
Green Acres-Negri	\$300,000.00
Somerset County--Scott	<u>\$200,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$1,960,000.00

Total: bonds, grants & unexpended balance

Total available	\$5,552,914.95
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Additional bonding capacity:

\$16,500,000.00

Total spending capacity AFTER Council bonds for add'l \$16.5M:	\$22,052,914.95
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Unexpended balance of open space trust fund tax revenue left in trust fund (includes all revenue sources such as interest, lease payments and unexpended from previous years) except those identified above	TO BE USED FOR ADDITIONAL BONDING PAYMENTS, PER ORDINANCE INTRODUCED ON JUNE 13, 06	\$5,963,803.81
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A motion was made by Danile and seconded by Battin to approve the financial report. Motion carried.

## 5. Loos Consulting Report for June 2006

1. Property management
  - a. Fencing—should be installed in June
  - b. Griggstown driveway—almost completed
  - c. Memorial Forest—parking lot, tree-planting areas and trail will be laid out this summer; trash will be cleared this summer
  - d. Native Grasslands project—all the grass has been planted and is growing
2. Eco-heritage tourism update—project completed.
3. Summer 2006 Projects on Open Space —list of planned activities as follows:

### Griggstown

1. Erect and repair fence
2. Post edges
3. Construct, mark and maintain trails
4. Spread small stone and wood chips on wet portions of trails
5. Spread small stone on top of 2-inch stone
6. Remove illegal tree stands
7. Remove invasive bushes and vines around edges
8. Remove trash--multiple sites in forest
9. Erect entrance sign
10. Block ATV entrance at Liev Ericksen
11. Block ATV entrance upper field with fencing
12. Mow trails
13. Mow upper (eastern) fields
14. Remove debris from around parking area
15. Weed whack small trees in fields
16. Interpret groundhog area in dirt pile in parking area
17. Install plexi-glass covers on kiosk
18. Stream crossing #1
19. Stream crossing #2
20. *Weed whack driveway edge--completed*
21. *Weed whack entrance to woods trail--completed*
22. *Design plexi-glass cover for kiosk—completed*
23. *Remove sign from tree swallow structure and install sign on kiosk--completed*

### **Bunker Hill**

1. Remove fallen tree from path
2. Weed whack trail entrances to the woods
3. Install field trail markers
4. Maintain forest trails (red and blue trails)
5. Deal with stream crossing
6. Remove debris from entrance parking lot
7. Remove invasive bushes and vines around edges
8. Erect entrance sign
9. Erect fence around parking lot
10. Erect pedestrian crossing sign
11. Post edges
12. Mow fields

### **Negri Nepote**

1. Erect fence
2. Post edges
3. Erect fence around parking lot
4. Erect trail markers on trails
5. Spread small stone and wood chips on wet portions of trails
6. Remove illegal tree stands
7. Mow trails
8. Cut down tree at entrance to Negri parking area
9. Erect entrance sign
10. Remove invasive bushes and vines around edges
11. Mow the fields
12. Clean up of the Negri forest
13. Divert water running down trail toward wetlands
14. Re-rout trail into grass on hill going from driveway to wetlands
15. Fill in ruts in berm
16. Install plexi-glass covers on kiosk
17. Clear trail through small wooded area in southwest corner of property
18. *Construct trail through forest/scrubland—completed*
19. *Make trail around wetlands—completed*
20. *Create pedestrian trail beginning at the entrance to Bennetts Lane--completed*
21. *Erect barrier at Bennetts Lane pedestrian entrance--completed*
22. *Design and construct small trail platforms to cross wet areas in Leni area—completed*
23. *Design plexi-glass cover for kiosk—completed*

### **Memorial Forest**

1. Erect fence
2. Post edges
3. Mark and maintain trails

4. Remove invasive bushes and vines around edges
5. Spread wood chips on trails
6. Remove illegal tree stands
7. Remove trash
8. Construct entrance area
9. Block ATV/equestrian entrances
10. Pond cleanup
11. Construct driveway going to parking lot
12. Construct parking area
13. Layout tree planting areas

**Galdi Railroad bed**

1. Clear five foot trail
2. Remove any debris
3. Post edges as open space

**Scott**

1. Construct trails
2. Spread wood chips on trails
3. Implement some site plans such as pond cleanup
4. Erect entrance sign
5. Remove invasive bushes and vines around edges
6. Add stone to pot holes in Scott driveway

**6. Old Business--Wildlife Control Committee.** The committee reviewed the recommendations of the Wildlife Control Subcommittee (WCS). After some discussion, Connolly moved and Kaiser seconded a motion, which carried, to approve the following:

1. that there be a hunt for the 2006-07 season
2. that the Griggstown property have 50 hunters
3. to keep the "take two doe, before a buck can be taken" policy
4. to send a letter out to anyone who is denied a permit
5. to change the date on the application to August 31, 2006 as the date to have applications back to the township
6. To add to the application a question that asks if they had a permit last year and if they handed in their paperwork
7. to keep all other rules from last year
8. to have hunting on the Negri site to be after 3pm during bow season and after 1pm for firearms seasons
9. to segregate hunting area from non-hunting area on the Ten Mile Run Greenway, per the may OSAC meeting

**7. Old business--Historic grant.** The committee reviewed a memo from the historic grant subcommittee that recommended that the Township award \$114,800 to the Meadows Foundation for preservation of the Tulipwood house. After some discussion,

Connolly moved and Danile seconded a motion as follows:

That in light of the fact that the Meadows did not provide any evidence that it had taken the subcommittee's suggestions to obtain cost estimates for shutters by researching additional contractors as identified by the subcommittee and in light of the fact that the Meadows did not provide any evidence that it had investigated ditch-witching for the utilities to be done more cheaply by a local electrician and in light of the fact that the Meadows had been informed that obtaining such a quote would be looked upon favorably by the subcommittee, the subcommittee recommends to the OSAC that the Meadows Foundation be awarded a grant for all work in their grant application except that the grant be reduced by the cost of shutter replacement (\$20,200) and be further reduced by the amount of the electrical work (\$5,000). Accordingly, the grant would be for a total of \$114,800, as follows:

Garage:

1.	Foundation		
2.	Restore sills, frame Siding and windows		
3.	Remove current roof, repair frame, install exterior plywood, fabric, breather mesh & cedar shakes		
4.	Restore four doors/frame		
	<u>Sub Total</u>	\$	<u>23,500.00</u>

House:

Roof

1.	Remove current roofing, repair timbers/boards as necessary.		
2.	Install fabric, flashing, ice shield & breather mesh		
3.	Install new cedar shakes roof & sides of 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor		
	<u>Sub Total</u>	\$	<u>66,000.00</u>

Side Porch

1. Demolition & propping
2. Rebuild porch piers
3. Framing pressure treated deck & stairs
4. Jacking, leveling & framing repairs
5. Mahogany decking, & stairs
6. Misc. trim repair (match house trims)

7. Restore Pillars (2) Remove rotted sections, splice in and turn on lathe (8.5').		
<u>6. Painting</u>		
Sub Total	\$	8,200.00

Foundations & Chimneys

<u>1. Restore, repoint three chimneys, foundation (150')</u>		
Sub Total	\$	4,700.00

Well Enclosure/Electric

1. Fabricate 1800's style well enclosure	\$	1,500.00
<u>Sub Total</u>	\$	1,500.00

Single Category Projects:

1. Install period round white gutters & downspouts 2,100.00 (200')	\$	
2. Restore/replace house sills, incorporated timbers and restore moldings, drip boards & moldings, match existing (around the house on five exposed sides)	\$	5,600.00
3. Restore/replace all moldings & fascias, prime & paint	\$	1,200.00
<u>4. Restore/replace seven basement windows</u>	\$	2,000.00
Sub Total	\$	10,900.00
<u>Overall Total</u>	\$	114,800.00

**8. Old business--Purchase of Tractor.** Loos reported that bids were accepted for the purchase of a tractor and related equipment for open space work. The bids specified that the bidder had to take a township-owned Case 550H bulldozer as trade in. The low bidder was from Cammps Hardware for a total of \$1,670. Loos explained that the bulldozer is not needed. Danile moved and Connolly seconded a motion to recommend to the Council the purchase of the tractor and equipment. Motion carried.

**9. New Business--FY 2007 open space trust fund budget recommendations.**

The committee reviewed a proposed budget for fy 07 and after some discussion, Danile moved and Connolly seconded a motion that carried to approve the following budget:

Acct #	Item	Examples	FY 06 Budgeted amount	Spent or encumbered as of 6-8-06	FY 07 Recommended amount	Recommended change in budget amount
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005	acting pay		\$0.00	\$180.31	\$0.00	\$0.00
011	salaries-full time		\$1,000.00	\$6,120.16	\$7,500.00	\$6,500.00
012	salaries-part time		\$5,000.00	\$245.29	\$10,000.00	\$5,000.00
014	salaries-ot		\$102,500.00	\$10,035.66	\$42,500.00	-\$60,000.00
023	printing	hunting signs	\$250.00	\$3,905.31	\$4,000.00	\$3,750.00
026	equipment		\$4,000.00	\$190.00	\$1,000.00	-\$3,000.00
026	legal		\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00	\$0.00
028	professional contracts	loos, njas, surveys, driveway construction	\$152,500.00	\$230,692.77	\$200,000.00	\$47,500.00
029	contractual services	gis, historic grant, seeding, interpretive signs	\$245,000.00	\$189,240.85	\$223,930.00	-\$21,070.00
033	books and publications		\$100.00	\$41.05	\$100.00	\$0.00
036	office supplies		\$0.00	\$29.86	\$100.00	\$100.00
038	tools		\$550.00	\$6,781.28	\$6,000.00	\$5,450.00
041	conference and meetings		\$325.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	-\$125.00
042	education and training		\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
043	uniforms		\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$400.00
050	work equipment	tractor rental	\$0.00	\$955.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
051	vehicle purchase	lease purchase	\$50,500.00	\$0.00	\$52,170.00	\$1,670.00
058	road materials	stone, fence, signs	\$21,000.00	\$5,500.00	\$15,000.00	-\$6,000.00
103	bond principal		\$1,500,000.00	\$1,500,000.00	\$1,500,000.00	\$0.00
104	bond interest		\$862,000.00	\$0.00	\$862,000.00	\$0.00
105	capt'l improvements		\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
020	other expenses		<u>\$11,300.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$10,000.00</u>	<u>-\$1,300.00</u>
	Total:		\$3,021,925.00	\$1,953,917.54	\$3,000,000.00	-\$21,925.00

Income	\$4,267,967.00
fy 07 budget	<u>-\$3,000,000.00</u>
Projected addition to reserves in FY07	\$1,267,967.00

Down payment To be taken from OSTF reserves on new issue of \$16M bonds \$860,000.00

- 10. New business--NJAS request to support Endangered Species Rule.** The committee reviewed a request from NJAS to support a proposal to have the DEP issue rules for endangered species habitat protection. Battin moved and Moon seconded a motion to have the Chairman send a letter of support. Motion carried.
- 11. New business--NJAS landowner outreach program.** The committee was advised that the NJAS will be doing outreach to farm-owners concerning federal and state financial incentive programs to create wildlife habitat on their farms. Around 10:00, Orsini moved and Clyde seconded a motion to close the meeting to the public and to go into Executive Session to discuss property negotiations. Motion carried. At 10:30, the committee came out of Executive Session.
- 12. New business—Cancellation of summer meetings.** Connolly moved and Battin seconded a motion to cancel the July and August meetings unless there was some pressing business that comes up in which case the Chairman will call a meeting. Motion carried.
- 13. Executive session.** Connolly moved and Battin seconded a motion to go into Ex. Session to discuss possible property purchases and negotiations. Motion carried. At 9:52pm, the committee came out of Ex. Session.
- 14. Adjournment.** At 9:52 PM the committee adjourned upon a motion by Danile, seconded by Connolly. Motion carried..

Respectfully submitted,

John Loos  
Secretary/Consultant

**Franklin Township OSAC  
Executive Session Minutes  
June 20, 2006**

1. **Schilling and Skodacek farms on Coppermine Rd.** The committee was advised that the AAC reviewed a request from Mrs. Suzzana Schilling , Block 11.01, Lot 48, to consider preserving her 13.5 acre property. The property is in the RR5-zone (5 acre minimum) and already has one house on it. Loos informed the committee that he spoke with Ms. Schilling and that she indicated that she would likely take approximately 50% of the value of her property if the township would preserve it as farmland. Loos also contacted her neighbor, Rudy Skodacek about selling development rights on his 18.5 acre farm located in Block 11.01, Lot 46. He, too is interested. Accordingly, the AAC passed a motion to add these two properties to the AAC's preservation list and to recommend to Council that they add these properties to the list of target properties in the bond ordinance. There were no objections from the OSAC.
2. At 9:52, Connolly moved and Danile seconded a motion to leave Executive Session. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

John Loos  
Secretary/Consultant