

Franklin Township Open Space Advisory Committee Minutes
Tuesday, January 15, 2008

1. **Call to order in accordance with the Sunshine Law provision.** At 7:33 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 Randy Jones Melba Battin, Bob LaCorte, Jack Connolly, Bill Connell and Arnie Schmidt. Arriving after the meeting started were Ted Chase and Mike Orsini, Dave Triggs, Bob Puskas, John Moon, Councilman Vassanella
3. **Committee Appointments**
Reorganization
 - Election of Chair: Randy Jones
 - Election of Vice-Chair Jack Connolly
 - Election of Secretary John Loos
4. **Approval of December 11th Minutes.** It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion carried.
5. **Discussion of Equestrian Fee's.**
Alice Osipowitz was present to discuss the need to charge an Equestrian fee for use of the trails. They currently require a permit with no fee. In summary, consistency of fees. To cover the people time to prepare the permit. She was requesting \$25 per year.
6. **Opening of the meeting to the public.** A motion, made by Triggs and seconded by Schmidt, was passed to open the meeting to the public.
 - **Dominic Abbatiello** Why single out horse riders. 60 trails in NJ do not require a permit. Or fees. Pointing out that the town only has 2 miles of trails
 - Pat Leonard Old George Town Road : Suggested eliminating permit altogether. If tax dollars are paying for open space, why would we charge a permit fee? Also requested revisiting Riding Restriction in on Memorial forest.
 - Puskas moved and Battin seconded a motion to close the meeting to the public. Motion carried..

A motion was made by Puskas to charge a fee, seconded by Moon
Vote Taken to charge fee.
9 No 2 Yes Motion Fails
For-Battin, Puskas
Against-Jones, Orsini, Chase, Connell, Schmidt, Connolly, La Corte
Triggs, Moon
7. Introduction of Bill Connell as Citizen Member and Jim Vassanella as Council Liaison
8. Presentation on the possible Reforestation project at the Bunker Hill Natural Area—Chris Smith, NRCS State Resource Conservationist and Gregory Westfall, NRCS Water Resource Planner
--Reforest South Portion of Bunker Hill Property with Lob Lolly Pines, Virginia Oaks

- Can be executed by volunteers, clubs and scouts
- State Nursery can supply trees for roughly 4 cents a tree
- Possibly utilize developer money
- Recycled Trees can be used as deer fence.

It was discussed what is the purpose of starting this when the Memorial Forest has not been completed.

9 Financial report. Rick Jones, Motion to approve, Schmidt. Second Motion passed.

10. Historic Grant Fund: Discussion to review application process. Open Space Committee to set budget. Have Historic Commission review applications and submit directly to council.

- Plan to review application process at next meeting

- Discuss Application Process

11. Open and close meeting to public

12. Executive Session Motion made by Moon and Second by La Corte to go into executive session

13. Table Consultant Report.

14. Motion to adjourn by Triggs, Seconded by Moon. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

- 1 *Randy Jones***
- 2 *Bob La Corte***
- 3 *John Moon 7:50***
- 4 *Bob Puskas***
- 5 *Melba Battin***
- 6 *Jack Connolly***
- 7 *Bill Connell***
- 8 *Ted Chase 7:35***
- 9 *Mike Orsini 7:40***
- 10 *Arnie Schmidt***
- 11 *John Loos Absent***
- 12 *(James Vassanella)7:50***
- 13 *Dave Triggs 7:50***