



FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP TRAILS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)
Meeting Minutes – January 9, 2019

PRESENT

Mark Fortin
Vanessa Jones
Jim Kuligowski,
Anne-Marie Orlusky,
Charles Martin
Tom Lewis
Tara Kenyon – Land Preservation and Management Consultant

ABSENT

Mayor Phillip Kramer - Township Council Representative

PUBLIC

Diana W. Martin
Bill Bowman

These meeting minutes follow the order of the January 20, 2019 TAC Meeting agenda outline as circulated by Ms. Kenyon.

1. Call to order in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:46) Meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by Tara Kenyon, representing Franklin Township
2. Roll Call: The above members were present. Tom Lewis was introduced as a new member of the committee. Mark Fortin and Vanessa Jones indicated that they had received reappointment letters for new 4- year terms on the committee and indicated that they will continue to serve.
3. Reorganization of the Committee
 - a. Nomination for Trails Advisory Committee – Charles Martin nominated James Kuligowski as 2019 Chair (motion seconded by Anne-Marie Orlusky) who was approved by a unanimous vote of the committee. Anne-Marie Orlusky nominated Vanessa Jones for 2019 Vice Chair (motion seconded by Mark Fortin) who was approved by unanimous vote of the committee, Mark Fortin nominated Charles Martin as Secretary of the Committee which was again approved by unanimous vote.
4. Approval of October 2018 Minutes – A motion by Mark Fortin to approve the October 2018 Minutes was seconded by Anne-Marie Orlusky and unanimously approved by the committee
5. Public Comment – The floor was opened for public comment. After no comment was offered, Mark Fortin moved to close the floor, seconded by Charles Martin and approved by unanimous vote.
6. New Business
 - a. Goals for 2019 – The Committee approved the following goals for 2019.

- a. Completion of the Pathways and Trails Plan initiated and partially completed during the 2018 term Vanessa Jones will send a GoogleDoc invite of the partially completed plan to members for comments.
 - b. Remarketing existing trails with new metal trail signs
 - c. Address concerns about the role of trails committee and its supervision of DPW activities on the trails.
 - d. Promoting hiking events on the trails.
 - e. Looking into placing identifying markers on trees on the trails as part of an education initiative. This may be done in partnership with with shade tree commission, possible in conjunction with an Arbor Day event or a National Trails Day Event (noting that Arbor Day event would possibly conflict with the Tour de Franklin and Rutgers Day).
 - f. Updating trail maps.
 - g. Promoting the 2019 photo contest and 2020 Trails Calendar.
 - h. Participating in Township events including Franklin Days, July 4th Celebration, Canal Fest, National Trails Day.
- b. Accomplishments of 2018 – Trails committee engaged in multiple public outreach events by manning information tables and distributing township and trail maps. These included Franklin Days, Canal Fest, National Trails Day, Table at 4th of July Celebration. The Committee managed and judged the Trails Photo Contest. Awarding prizes and commendations to township photographers including a second year Kid’s photo contest. These provided photos for the Township Calendar,
 - c. Annual OSAC (Open Space Advisory Committee) Report – Tara Kenyon drafted an Annual Report in PowerPoint for various township committees that could be used by others for informational and publicity purposes.
 - d. Grasslands Maintenance Plan – Tara Kenyon and Chris Williams (Township Shade Tree Commission) will be meeting with Audubon representative to create a grasslands maintenance plan.
7. Old Business
- a. *Pathways and Trails Plan* – the Committee wants to complete this Plan this year. It was recommended that the February meeting be dedicated to the PTP.
 - b. Camera at Griggstown Grasslands Preserve – Camera has arrived, waiting on solar power unit for installation
 - c. Installation of signage at Negri-Nepote Grasslands – sign posts and interpretive materials were constructed and installed along Negri-Nepote Grassland trails by Mr. Ahmed Awadallah as part of his Master’s Thesis project in Sustainable Ecosystems Biology. Mr. Awadallah will receive a commendation for his work at the next Township Council meeting.
 - d. Trail Maintenance reports – Vanessa Jones indicated that there were some fallen tree blockages in the Bunker Hill Trail system. Charles Martin indicated that there were problems with major stream crossings on the Butler Road purple trail that may require some type of bridging. James Kuligowski indicated that there were tree falls blocking the Inman Park trail, along with new signage to show location of the trailhead.
8. Reports from other Committees – no reports from other committees
9. Adjournment Mark Fortin adjourn motion at 8:44 PM