

Readington Township Open Space Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

June 7, 2023

PRESENT:

MEMBER	JAN 4	FEB 1	MAR 1	APR 5	MAY 3	JUN 7	AUG 2	SEP 6	OCT 4	NOV 1
Mr. Huelsebusch, Chair	X		X	X	X	X				
Ms. Allen, Vice Chair	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Mr. Bola	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Dr. Hendrickson	X	X		X	X	X				
Mr. John	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Dr. Kelly					X					
Mr. Mueller	X	X		X		X				
Mr. Orlandi		X			X	X				
Ms. Owen	X		X	X	X					
Mr. Dunn, 1 st Alternate	X	X		X	X					
Mr. Klotz, 2nd Alternate	X	X	X	X	X	X				

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Brian Skowronek

Chair Huelsebusch called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM announcing all laws governing the Open Public Meetings Act have been met and that this meeting has been duly advertised.

COMMUNITY:

- 1) **Website:** John Klotz stated that the open space walk was posted to the Township website.
- 2) **Event Updates:** nothing to report.
- 3) **Open Space Walks:** John Klotz stated that the June 18th open space walk will be held on The River Trail. No walk scheduled for July; will resume in August on the Lachenmayr Trail.
- 4) **Volunteer Sessions:** Chris John stated that there will be one more tree session planned, however, due to the current dry conditions this might need to be postponed until the Fall.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Emanuel Bola made a motion to approve the May minutes, seconded by Mario Orlandi, all approved.

CORRESPONDENCE: none

REPORTS:

- 1) **Farmland Preservation / Green Acres:** Julia Allen stated that the Saum's property was sold at auction on May 10 for \$750,000. Chair Huelsebusch stated that the closing will be in 30 days. Chair Huelsebusch stated that the Bartles property (100 acres) has an anticipated closing for July.
- 2) **Hunterdon County Parks / OSAB:** nothing to report.
- 3) **Environmental Commission Update:** Neil Hendrickson updated the board on the status of the Environmental Resource Inventory. Neil stated that Princeton Hydro has submitted a draft and he asked for input from the board. Neil also suggested that the board work with the Environmental Commission to update the inventory and monitor the information that will be included.
- 4) **WaterWatch Updates:** Mario Orlandi stated that they continue to conduct stream monitoring throughout the months of May and June. Mario also stated that, in cooperation with NJDEP and Raritan Headwaters, volunteers/community members will soon be trained in stream data collection.
- 5) **Township Updates:** Discussion on timely posting of events (hikes, workshops) on the Township website and Facebook page.

ONGOING BUSINESS:

- 1) **Trails Subcommittee:** nothing to report.
- 2) **Stewardship:** nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) **Darts Mill:** Chair Huelsebusch stated that Raritan Headwaters will begin to occupy Darts Mill office building on July 1.
- 2) **Deer Survey:** Adam Mueller discussed data from Dr. Kelly's recent deer survey. This recent survey included the entire Township as compared to only open space.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: no comments

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD: Julia Allen stated that work is being done to get River Trail prepared for the upcoming open space walk. Chair Huelsebusch stated that he would like to collaborate with the County to create more access points along the local waterways for kayakers, canoers, etc. Adam Mueller stated that Public Works employees are occupied with basin work, therefore, trail clearing is on hold. Adam also stated that he met recently with Township Engineer, Rob O'Brien, at the Lachenmayr trailhead to discuss an updated parking area for the trail. Chris John stated that 75 sycamore trees were recently planted at the creek (?).

Open Space Advisory Board

Page 3 of 3

June 7, 2023

Emanuel Bola stated that Recreation's Summer Spectacular will be held on June 20th and community tables will be available.

ADJOURN: Adam Mueller made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by John Klotz, followed by unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Meg A. Slutter