

Readington Township Open Space Advisory Board Meeting

Minutes

November 6, 2024

Present:

MEMBER	JAN 3	FEB 7	MAR 13	APR 3	MAY 1	JUN 12	AUG 7	SEP 5	OCT 2	NOV 6
Juergen Huelsebusch, Chair	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X
Emanuel Bola, Vice Chair	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	
Julia Allen	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X
Thomas Davitt	X	X		X		X		X		X
Neil Hendrickson	X			X			X	X		X
Christopher John	X	X		X		X			X	
Adam Mueller				X		X	X	X	X	
Mario Orlandi	X	X		X			X		X	
Anne Owen	X	X		X		X	X			X
Ryan Dunn, 1 st Alternate	X	X		X					X	
John Klotz, 2nd Alternate	X	X		X			X	X	X	X

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Doug Vornlocker, Lisa Routel

Chair Huelsebusch called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM announcing all laws governing the Open Public Meetings Act have been met and that this meeting has been duly advertised.

COMMUNITY:

- 1) **Communication:** Nothing to report.
- 2) **Event Updates:** Nothing to report.
- 3) **Open Space Walks:** This month's trail walks will take place on December 15th Round Mountain from Dobozyński, January 1st will be Pickle Park to Cushetunk, and January 19th will be Duke Estate. It was also suggested that it would be optional for hikers to bring clippers to help keep the trail trimmed. This will be added to the hiking announcement.

4) Volunteer Sessions: No report.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: September 5, 2024, Julia Allen moved to approve September 5, 2024 minutes the motion was seconded by John Klotz. Julia Allen moved to approve the October 2, 2024 minutes and John Klotz seconded the motion.

CORRESPONDENCE: Nothing to report.

REPORTS:

- 1) **Environmental Commission and Water Watch Update:** Well testing went well, but there was less of a turnout than the previous year.
- 2) **Stewardship Committee Update:** A date to be scheduled for January for forest planting, etc. Doug Vornlocker did a fourth grade walk from Roosevelt to Holland Brook that contained information stages during the walk.
- 3) **Agricultural Land Advisory Committee Update:** Twenty-five letters were sent out to potential farm owners for preservation and three seemed interested.
- 4) **Township Update:** Mountain is under contract.
- 5) **Trail Subcommittee Update:** Anne Owen reported that John Klotz had spearheaded tree planting that happened in various locations; Stanton, Pleasant Run, Vislocky, Summer Road, Armans Trail and Lazy Brook. There were many volunteers that participated and the project accumulated approximately 122 service hours. The Readington Trail Association had a Halloween ride on October 27th. Their sincerest thanks went to the DPW who mowed the grant field on Cole Road. The Blue Trail – Lt. Dale Havers, needs to be finished with work detail. Mountain Road needs trail work. Dobozyński storage room will be cleared and used for planting and equipment storage. It was suggested that we ask DPW to only mow the front half of the Indian Purchase meadow (Rocky Road trail). This was viewed as a possible compromise in regard to the complaints we received stating that the area looked unkempt. This potentially will allow us to make the experiment more manageable.

NEW BUSINESS: Requests for help on Open Space from the DPW should be requested through Juergen Huelsebusch and Anne Owen.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: Lisa Routel commented on the new Kestrel boxes project. The project is expected to take approximately five years. These will be set up and tracked. She is currently discussing this project with Bill Pitts, Wildlife Biologist, of NJEP.

ADJOURN: Anne made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Neil, followed by unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Sherri Russo