

READINGTON TOWNSHIP OPEN SPACE ADVISORY BOARD

November 19, 2008

Meeting Minutes

- A. Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
- B. Members Present: Chairman Smith, John Klotz, Irene Sabin, Juergen Huelsebusch, Kenneth Jagel, Sandra Madon, Kim Yousey (arrived late).
Members Absent: Julia Allen, Jay Kelly,
- C. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** October 29, 2008 minutes were approved by voice vote.
- C. **CORRESPONDENCE / OTHER INFORMATION:** None
- E. **REPORTS:**
1. Open Space Planning Report: Julia Allen. Report submitted in writing as Julia Allen was out of town.
 - a. Farmland Preservation: Status of the Township's acquisitions and applications for reimbursement were detailed in the report.
 - b. Green Acres: Status of the Township's acquisitions and applications for reimbursement were detailed in the report.
- F. **OLD BUSINESS:**
1. **2008 Native Tree and Shrub Planting Project:** John Klotz reported the Road crew planted seven remaining willows at the Woodschurch Rd site. Remaining details will need to be taken care of in the Spring, particularly moving the trees remaining in the transmission wire zone. Work materials, some personal, still need to be cleaned out of the apartment. It was agreed there should be field visits to all three 2007 and 2008 sites in March 2009 to assess conditions there and plan for needed repairs/improvements (for example, more willows at Pleasant Run.
 2. **Utilizing Volunteers for Projects; Eagle Projects.** John Klotz is working on standards and guidelines for projects, and is seeking guidance from John Trontis, Director of Hunterdon County Park system who is experienced in utilizing Eagle Scout volunteers for parks improvements. Several scouts from troops in the township have expressed interest in doing projects; John will meet with them after the beginning of December to review their proposals. Ben Smith said he would be willing to assist with providing guidance and advice on behalf of the township to individuals doing projects.
 3. **2008 Grant Award to Readington Trail Assn.** Discussion postponed to next meeting.
 4. **2009 Recreational Trails Program Application Packet. Deadline 12/15/08.** Mr. Klotz reported the Parks, Recreation and Leisure Activities Task Force (PRLA) chose the proposal option involving extending the Lachenmayr trail to Pleasant Run Rd. The details of this option were reviewed with the board. Action: Mrs. Allen and Mr. Klotz will draft the grant proposal paperwork for submission to the State.

5. **2008 Recreational Trails Program Grant Award to Readington Twp for GPS Mapping Trails and Open Space:** Discussion postponed to January 28

G. NEW BUSINESS:

1. **2009 Native tree and shrub planting Project:** Discussion postponed to January 28.
2. **A Planning Process to Develop a Town wide Walking and Bicycle Trail Plan:**
John Klotz proposed a subcommittee work on a township plan for trails containing a vision for future pathways in all open space parcels, parks and public lands that may be appropriate for them, and outlining detailed plans where we can. This would enable attention to be appropriately directed to planning and action on parcels. For example, plans and permits can be requested for bridges so that when grant funds become available or a volunteer project is proposed the improvement is closer to being “shovel-ready.” This process would also help track projects and keep them move them along over time. No action was taken.

H. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

I. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Kim. Yousey suggested that this board should have liaisons to other major boards, such as the Environmental Commission and Recreation Committee.

J. ADJOURNMENT

The Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 PM

Submitted by John Klotz