



**Township of Pequannock
Open Space Advisory Committee**

February 13, 2017, 7:00 PM
Municipal Building, 2nd Floor
530 Newark-Pompton Turnpike
Pompton Plains, NJ 07444

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wells at 7:05 pm.

Voting Members Present (X):

X	Joseph Wells (Chairman)		Frank Spizzirri (Vice-Chair)		Robin Jones (Secretary)
X	Hon. Ryan Herd		Jeffrey Mauriello	X	Robert Safarik
X	Rudy Steintal	X	Julie Unger		

Others Present (X):

X	Frank Pinto, Spinelli & Pinto Consulting, LLC	X	Tom Andrea
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A quorum was established.

Mission Statement

To provide advice to the Township Council concerning open space acquisition and property stewardship issues.

Minutes Review & Approval

On motion of member Herd seconded by Safarik, the Open Session minutes of the January 9, 2017 meeting were approved unanimously with member Steintal abstaining, as he was not present.

On motion of member Herd seconded by Safarik, the Executive Session minutes of the January 9, 2017 meeting were approved unanimously with member Steintal abstaining, as he was not present.

Township Council Report:

Councilman Herd reported on a couple of upcoming community events. On February 23rd at the Reformed Church will be the "Hidden in Place Sight" event. On March 7th will be the second annual Pequannock UNICO "Taste of the Town" event. Councilman Herd also reported that the next 6 weeks there will be open sessions at 6 PM on Thursdays for review of the Township's budget. He also reported that Council approved the bond for sewers along Route 23 North of Jackson Avenue.

Planning Board Report: There was no report given.

Environmental Commission Report:

Tom Andrea was present and reported on several matters. George Stafford of the NJ Highlands Coalition is asking for the Township's support of two Resolutions related to legislation, that involve clean water supply. The Commission will review the request and possibly make a recommendation on each to the Township Council. The Watershed Ambassador indicated that in April there will be a "BioBlitz" survey which will find and identify as many species as possible in a short period of time in a specifically defined area. Then in May there is a kayak trip planned. Not date is set yet.

Historic District Commission Report:

Bob Safarik reported that the Lillian Burry House finally **closed**, on Tuesday Jan 24th. The owner has moved out. They are working on security. The Historic Society is doing cleanup. The Society's meetings will be held there. Natural gas will soon be run in the back of the house. He suggested once that is in place, the building should be converted to gas from oil. An arborist will be brought in to check all the trees.

Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee Report:

Rudy Steinthal reported swim lanes need to be replaced or repaired. Due to cost, the lanes will be repaired. The Mayor's River Cleanup will be held April 1st. This is lead by the Environmental Commission but Parks and Rec will be participating. Beginning on April 1st will be the "walk in, walk out" trash policy for all Pequannock parks. This will be a one year trial.

Pending Items Update

1. Rail Trail – Chairman Wells reported that there was a need to buy "fill credits" as the trail needed to meander off the rail bed in order to make a safe crossing at the southern terminus. He also reported that construction of the line is now scheduled to begin in 2018. This is about 20 years in the making.
2. Riverwalk – Equipment. Joe reported that there has been approval to purchase the benches and tables. Kiosks – the plan is to select a design and buy the materials, having adult volunteers do the construction and installation.
3. Volunteer Groups for Trail Sections – Joe suggested this concept that groups would be responsible for maintaining certain sections of the trail, similar to "adopt a highway."
4. Community Garden – Julie Unger reported on her work with Joe and Engineering. Unfortunately, the Pequannock area of town is out of the question. The new flood maps have all of the Pequannock portion of town within the floodplain. And a much larger portion is also within the floodway. Lyman Park is marginal. The Field by Copley is possible. They will keep exploring to try and find a suitable site that is relatively close to the Pequannock portion of town.

Correspondence: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

On motion of member Steinthal seconded by Herd, the Committee voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session to discuss the following two (2) matters:

1. Manno Property
2. Spinelli & Pinto report: Riverwalk Easements

The open session reconvened at 8:25 PM.

Adjournment:

On motion of member Herd with all in agreement, the meeting concluded at 8:26 PM.

Next meeting is Scheduled for:

Monday, March 13, 2017; 7:00 pm 530 Newark-Pompton Turnpike Pompton Plains, NJ 07444

Respectfully Submitted,
Frank Pinto, Committee Facilitator