

**OPEN SPACE & AGRICULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes**  
**January 3, 2008**  
**ReOrganization Meeting**

**Call to Order**

A Reorganization meeting and the Regular Meeting of the Open Space and Agriculture Advisory Committee was called to order at 8:05 P.M. Secretary Brown Called the meeting to order and read the following notice requirements.

**Notice Requirements**

In order to ensure full public participation in this meeting, all members of this committee or Board, and also members of the public are requested to speak only when recognized by the Chair so that there is no simultaneous discussion or over talk. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Notification of the time, date and place of this meeting has been published in the Delaware Valley News and Express Times and sent to the Hunterdon County Democrat, as has been posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building at least 48 hours prior to this meeting and has been filed with the Municipal Clerk.

**ROLL CALL**

**Agriculture Advisory Committee**

Present - Elaine Nieman

Absent - Sal DeSapio, Chairman  
William Pandy

**Open Space Advisory Committee**

Present - John Mathieu, Chairman  
James Burke, Deputy Mayor  
Sandra McNicol  
Marge Augustine, Mayor

Absent - None

Also present at the meeting were Attorney David Pierce, Open Space/Farmland Coordinator Liz Schmid and Secretary Cynthia Brown.

Since there is only one member from the Agriculture Advisory Committee present at the meeting, not enough members are present for a quorum. There will be no business or actions for the Agriculture Advisory Committee at this meeting.

**NOMINATION FOR CHAIRPERSON FOR AGRICULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

At the present time this will be tabled until additional members either come to the meeting or postponed to another date to reorganize.

**NOMINATION FOR CHAIRPERSON FOR THE OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

John Mathieu stated that he would like to nominate Sandra McNicol for the Chairperson. Sandra McNicol withdrew the nomination.

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by James Burke and carried to nominate John Mathieu for Chairman for the Open Space Advisory Committee for 2008.

<b><u>Roll Call Vote:</u></b>	<b>AYE</b>	- James Burke
		- Marge Augustine
		- Sandra McNicol
	<b>NAY</b>	- None
	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	- John Mathieu
	<b>ABSENT</b>	- None

**NOMINATION FOR VICE CHAIRPERSON FOR AGRICULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

At the present time this will be tabled until additional members either come to the meeting or postponed to another date to reorganize.

**NOMINATION FOR VICE CHAIRPERSON FOR THE OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

It was moved by Margaret Augustine, seconded by James Burke and carried to nominate Sandra McNicol for Vice Chairwoman for the Open Space Advisory Committee for 2008.

**Roll Call Vote:**

<b>AYE</b>	- James Burke
	- Marge Augustine
	- John Mathieu
<b>NAY</b>	- None
<b>ABSTAIN</b>	- Sandra McNicol
<b>ABSENT</b>	- None

It was moved by Margaret Augustine, seconded by James Burke and carried to close the nominations.

**Roll Call Vote:**

<b>AYE</b>	- James Burke
	- Marge Augustine
	- John Mathieu
	- Sandra McNicol
<b>NAY</b>	- None
<b>ABSTAIN</b>	- None
<b>ABSENT</b>	- None

**MOTION TO APPROVE SCHEDULED MEETING DATES FOR THE OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR 2008**

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by Margaret Augustine and carried to approve the meeting dates for the year 2008 for the Open Space Advisory Committee.

**Roll Call Vote:**

<b>AYE</b>	- James Burke
	- Marge Augustine
	- John Mathieu
	- Sandra McNicol
<b>NAY</b>	- None
<b>ABSTAIN</b>	- None
<b>ABSENT</b>	- None

**MOTION AND APPROVAL OF LOCAL NEWSPAPERS FOR ADVERTISEMENTS FOR THE OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

It was moved by James Burke, seconded by Sandra McNicol and carried to approve the Local Newspapers, The Delaware Valley News and the Express Times for the year 2008 for the Open Space Advisory Committee.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>AYE</b>	- James Burke
		- Marge Augustine
		- John Mathieu
		- Sandra McNicol
	<b>NAY</b>	- None
	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	- None
	<b>ABSENT</b>	- None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by James Burke and carried to approve the Open Space/Agriculture Advisory Committee Minutes of December 6, 2007.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>Aye</b>	- Mathieu, Burke, McNicol,
	<b>Nay</b>	- None
	<b>Abstain</b>	- Augustine, Niemann
	<b>Absent</b>	- DeSapio, Pandy

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Copy of a letter sent to Township Committee requesting additional members to the boards.

Mayor Burke commented that the Township Committee agreed with the request. He stated that Attorney Kopen will amend the ordinances for both committees and they will be introduced at the January 7, 2008 Township Committee meeting.

**REPORTS**

PIG Progress: Liz Schmid

No discussion at this meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Paper copy of the Farmland Preservation Plan and maps for Kingwood Township from Banisch Associates.

Mayor Burke explained that he spoke to Mr. Henry Rey who is interested in preserving his farm. Mr. Burke introduced Mr. Rey, and asked if he had questions for the Committee. Mr. Rey explained that he has been involved with the program since 1996 with the County and explained his experience and that he would like fair market value for his property. He has eighty five acres of prime land to preserve. Mr. Mathieu gave Mr. Rey several suggestions. Liz Schmidt Open Space/Farmland Coordinator explained the PIG program and Mr. Rey's options. Mrs. Schmidt would like to change the project area, but must get approval first from the State. Mrs. Schmidt will be in contact with Mr. Rey.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Priorities to discuss for 2008

- 1). Expand the Committees
- 2). Bond for Open Space
- 3). Conservation Element of the Master Plan
- 4). Continue with the land ranking and the properties that are available
- 5). Work with non-profit organizations

There was a lengthy discussion on preserving property in the Township. Sandra McNicol suggested that the Committees form sub-committees to decide on the goals the Township is working towards. She also expressed her concern for water quantity and quality.

Sandra McNicol commented and reviewed information about several meetings she attended for the New Jersey Water Supply Authority.

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It was noted that Richard Dodds will be joining the Open Space Advisory Committee and Cynthia Niciecki is interested in joining the Agriculture Advisory Committee. Mayor Burke suggested it be post on the web site to anyone that would like to be a member of either committee.

Sandra McNicol also discussed attending a meeting and stated that there is a Green Communities Grant available for \$3,000 with the Municipal Land Use Center, and it is through the New Jersey Forest Service Program. She stated they are encouraging our Township and also Alexandria Township to apply for this grant. It would allow us to plant trees in the community. Mr. Burke explained that the Parks and Recreation Committee is looking for ideas for eagle scout projects, and explained that this would be a good project for them to work towards. Sandra McNicol offered to submit out an application for the grant.

**Comments from the Public**

Richard Dodds, Tumble Falls Road explained the Hunterdon Land Trust submitted an application to the William Penn Foundation for a \$45,000 Stewardship grant for a property along the Delaware River Corridor within a mile of the Delaware river.

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by James Burke and carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 P.M. **All** voted **AYE** on **Roll Call Vote**.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Cynthia L. Brown**  
**Secretary**