

**OPEN SPACE & AGRICULTURE JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEES**  
**Reorganization and Regular**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**January 8, 2013**  
**7:00PM**

**Call to Order**

The Reorganization and Regular Meeting of the Open Space Advisory Committee and the Agriculture Advisory Committee was called to order at 7:27P.M. Secretary Keller called the meeting to order and read the following notice requirements.

**Notice Requirements**

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act and published in the Hunterdon County Democrat and the Courier News on December 20, 2012, and by telefaxing a copy of the notice to the Star Ledger, and the Express Times on December 7, 2012. A copy of the notice was also posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building and Post Office on December 7, 2012.

In order to ensure full public participation in this meeting, all members of these Committees, 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, and all persons are requested to utilize the microphones which are provided for your use by the Township. Your cooperation is appreciated.

**Roll Call**

**Open Space Advisory Committee**

**Present**

Sandra McNicol  
Diana Haywood  
John Mathieu  
Lee Frank  
Karen Hertzog

**Absent**

Phil Lubitz

2.

Agriculture Advisory Committee

Present

Richard Dodds  
William Pandy  
Cynthia Niciecki  
Edward Kralovich

Absent

Pete D'Costa

Reorganize

Nomination for Chairperson for Open Space Advisory

It was moved by Lee Frank, seconded by Diana Haywood and carried to nominate Sandra McNicol Chairwoman for the Open Space Advisory Committee for 2013.

Roll Call Vote:	Aye	-	Haywood, McNicol, Mathieu, Frank, Hertzog
	Nay	-	None
	Abstain	-	None
	Absent	-	Lubitz

Nomination for Vice Chairperson for Open Space Advisory

It was moved by John Mathieu, seconded by Sandra McNicol and carried to nominate Lee Frank Vice Chairman for the Open Space Advisory Committee for 2013.

Roll Call Vote:	Aye	-	Haywood, McNicol, Mathieu Frank, Hertzog
	Nay	-	None
	Abstain	-	None
	Absent	-	Lubitz

Nomination for Chairperson for Agriculture Advisory

It was moved by Cynthia Niciecki, seconded by Richard Dodds and carried to nominate William Pandy Chairman for the Agriculture Advisory Committee for 2013.



4.

Motion and approval of local newspapers (Hunterdon County Democrat and the Courier News) for advertisements

It was moved by Richard Dodds, seconded by Lee Frank and carried to approve to advertise in the local newspapers the Hunterdon County Democrat and the Courier News for the Open Space and Ag Advisory Committee's advertisements for 2013.

Roll Call Vote:	Aye	-Haywood,McNicol,Mathieu, Frank,Hertzog,Dodds,Pandy, Niciecki,Kralovich
	Nay	-None
	Abstain	-None
	Absent	-D'Costa

Comments from the Newly Nominated Chairpersons

Chairwoman of the Open Space Advisory Committee, Sandra McNicol thanked everyone for serving on the committee this year. She stated that the committees will continue to work to assist preservation programs and welcomes any suggestions.

Chairman of the Agriculture Advisory Committee, William Pandy stated that he would like to keep doing what the committees have been doing. He feels that there is a real problem with the farmers and the people that are taking control of green acres, which is something that the township should keep in mind. Richard Dodds noted that Green Acres require other entities to manage and turn those properties over to Parks and Forestry and the State Fish and Wild Life. He explained that the State Fish and Wild life enhances the property for fish and wildlife and when it is turned over to the State Forestry they are not used to managing farmland. He noted that it would have to be a fundamental change, because there are not many options. There was a very long discussion on the subject.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion and Approval of December 4, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Open Space/Agriculture Advisory Committees

It was moved by Richard Dodds, seconded by William Pandy and carried to approve the meeting minutes of the December 4, 2012 Regular Meeting of the Open Space and Ag Advisory Committees with the following corrections:

5.

Corrections: Cynthia Niciecki noted that on Page 4. Under - Meeting Info at Hunterdon Land Trust - Second sentence - omit the word (Soil). Sentence to read: She stated that they will be meeting with the State of New Jersey Conservation Foundation representative, Alex Bacon.

Roll Call Vote:	Aye	-McNicol, Frank, Dodds, Pandy Niciecki, Kralovich
	Nay	-None
	Abstain	-Haywood, Mathieu, Hertzog
	Absent	-Lubitz, D'Costa

### Correspondence

News Letter from the Land Conservancy of New Jersey

Chairwoman Sandra McNicol reviewed.

News Letter from the D & R Greenway Land Trust Newsletter Year End 2012

Chairwoman Sandra McNicol reviewed.

Farmland Preservation Coordinator, Liz Schmid read the following report she prepared for January 2013:

### Reports

Farmland Preservation - Liz Schmid (Report for January, 2013)

Agriculture Advisory Committee Report  
January 8, 2013

1. Maplewood Farm - The title work has been completed and the survey has been ordered. HLT is working on the documentation for the federal money.

2. The Mulligan Farm (Bl 33 Lot 24) - ?

3. Helmer and Zander - Appraisals have been sent to SADC for certified value.

Helmer still trying to work a deal with the County.

4. Decker - (Bl 24 - Lot 8) - Fee purchase through the State Green Acres program is in progress.

5. Goeckeler (Bl 30, Lot 6) - The application is still under review at the State.

6.

6. Gross - No change. This is still in limbo. The landowner is now considering one or two severable exceptions as the certified appraisal did not meet his expectations. This would require going back to CADB and SADC for approval again. The application for leftover FFRP money is in.

7. Marramore Inc. ((Bl 20 Lot 5) 59.38 acres -According to HLT, this is being worked on as a Green Acres direct purchase. There is also a County PIG application in for this.

8. Maritan (Bl 33 Lot 25), 104.71 acres - Sharon Gonen, the lead heir in the estate situation, has submitted an application to Green Acres for direct purchase of this property. It adjoins the Clark property and has Lockatong frontage. They had approached SADC, but the property did not rank high enough to qualify for the farmland fee simple program. There is a County PIG application in for this also.

9. The Wydner family signed a 120 day option with SADC which allows the State to order appraisals. Hopefully, this is on the road for preservation.

10. Clark - ( Bl 33 Lot 25) 2 acres - Nothing new..

11. Chaitman - nothing new.

12. Coveleskey and "The Farm" church property - The Township application for cooperative funding from the County has been approved by the Freeholders.

HLT is preparing an option for the Coveleskys.

The Committee Members thanked Liz Schmid for her report.

### **Old Business**

#### Hunterdon Land Trust - Activity update

- Trstensky Update

Sandra McNicol noted that a Resolution was introduced at the January 3<sup>rd</sup> Township Committee Meeting and stated that an ordinance was also adopted to spend funds from the open space fund. The public hearing and final reading for this ordinance is scheduled to be on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

Chairwoman Sandra McNicol explained that there is approximately \$720,000 of green acres funds to be spent that the township has banked in there green acres fund. She noted that after purchasing the Trstensky property, there should be approximately 200,000 remaining.

7.

She explained that the Land Trust is interested in what the township would like to put these funds towards. Richard Dodds explained a few ideas the township should think about for the future.

#### Horseshoe Bend Park Steering Committee

Richard Dodds wanted to thank Jack MacConnell for all his hard work at the Horseshoe Bend Park as the park ranger. He stated that there was a good turn out with the hunters and everyone cooperated well. Jack MacConnell was present and commented on how the hunters did very well at the park and followed all the rules. He stated that he and Richard Dodds controlled them and directed them. They explained how they had meetings to give them an overview of the property and discuss the rules and regulations. Richard Dodds explained how the hunting licenses worked. He explained that one was to be kept in their car and one on them at all times while they are hunting. Richard Dodds and Jack MacConnell both stated they are a great group of hunters. Jack MacConnell noted there were state record size deer that were gotten at the Horseshoe Bend Park. Richard Dodds feels that the township is working well with the State.

Jack MacConnell noted that he and Richard Dodds met with FEMA and the township will be reimbursed for all the time, equipment and gas that went into the volunteers that worked to clear the trees of the trails at the Horseshoe Bend Park.

Richard Dodds talked about management structure for the Parks and Recreation Committee, which is scheduled to be discussed at a special meeting on January 31, 2013 at 7:00PM.

#### **New Business**

Letter to the Mayor Re: Final Approval Resolution for the Maplewood Farm - SADC ID#10-0322-PG

Chairwoman Sandra McNicol reviewed.

Copy of Letter to the Hunterdon County Division of Planning Services Re: 2012 Municipal Allocation of Open Space Trust Funds for Kingwood Township and a copy of Resolution No. 2012-112 adopted by the Kingwood Township Committee on December 17, 2012

8.

Chairwoman Sandra McNicol reviewed. She explained that this was a letter to the County requesting that the township is interested in banking their funds for 2011 in the amount of approximately \$20,000.

E-mail from the Hunterdon County Land Trust - Re: National Park Service Needs Feedback from Kingwood Township about a Workshop

Chairwoman Sandra McNicol explained that she received an e-mail from Katherine Suttle who works at the Land Trust. She stated that this was in regards to the National Park Service wanting feedback from Kingwood Township. Sandra McNicol noted that she sent a reply to Katherine Suttle. She informed them that Kingwood would be happy to host a meeting here at the township. She reviewed a few of the questions that were asked and what the township would be interested in discussing. She also told them that Kingwood would be interested in real working information and that they would like to just get past concepts. She informed them that the Township Committee would like to continue to receive grants from them. She stated that topics of interest from Kingwood Township's point of view would include, expanding river access to other communities along the Delaware Wild and Scenic River. She noted that this extends from the Delaware Water Gap all the way to Lambertville, NJ. She noted that they would like to discuss several topics in regard to first responders and medical emergencies along the river.

Suggestions from Chairwoman for New Year

Chairwoman Sandra McNicol discussed the possibility of selling the Ukarish and Melnyk properties as preserved farms. She feels this is something that Kingwood needs to address, as they need more funds for open space. John Mathieu feels the township should look into the history of the properties before they make any decisions.

Public Comment - Privilege of the Floor

N/A

Adjournment

It was moved by Lee Frank, seconded by Karen Hertzog and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:38P.M. **All** voted **Aye** on **Roll Call Vote**.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cynthia L. Keller, Secretary



