

# Readington Township Open Space Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

**October 4, 2023**

**PRESENT:**

MEMBER	JAN 4	FEB 1	MAR 1	APR 5	MAY 3	JUN 7	AUG 2	SEP 6	OCT 4	NOV 1
Mr. Huelsebusch, Chair	X		X	X	X	X		X		
Ms. Allen, Vice Chair	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Mr. Bola	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
Dr. Hendrickson	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	
Mr. John	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	
Dr. Kelly					X			X		
Mr. Mueller	X	X		X		X	X	X		
Mr. Orlandi		X			X	X		X		
Ms. Owen	X		X	X	X		X			
Mr. Dunn, 1 <sup>st</sup> Alternate	X	X		X	X			X		
Mr. Klotz, 2nd Alternate	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** Brian Skowronek

Vice Chair Allen 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:** John Klotz stated that he posted the Open Space Hike information on the Township website and the online registration system is working out well.
- 2) **Event Updates:** Vice Chair Allen stated that the 7<sup>th</sup> grade “Walk in the Woods” event will be held on October 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.
- 3) **Open Space Walks:** John Klotz stated that the next open space walk will be held on October 15<sup>th</sup> on Cushetunk Mountain.
- 4) **Volunteer Sessions:** Nothing to report.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Deferred to next month.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

### **REPORTS:**

- 1) **Farmland Preservation / Green Acres:** Vice Chair Allen stated that the Township is still waiting to close on the two (2) farms with SADC.
- 2) **Hunterdon County Parks / OSAB:** Vice Chair Allen stated that Hunterdon County Parks has expressed interest in funding the purchase of a small piece of land (5 acres) between two preserved pieces near the Holland Brook tributary.
- 3) **Environmental Commission Update:** Neil Hendrickson stated he and Steve Foster are working with Readington schools on several projects including “Get Outside” which includes outdoor instruction, hikes, tree planting, etc. Neil asked the board for their input on future projects with the schools. Neil updated the board on the revised and completed Environmental Resource Inventory which was coordinated with Princeton Hydro. Neil stated that the annual Well Test Program will be conducted again during the month of October. Discussion on the recent garbage hauling and recycling bid process. Neil stated that Susan Masinda recently conducted testing on Rockaway Creek and Cushetunk Lake. Results from this testing showed high levels of e-coli. Neil stated that Susan will continue testing to identify the source of the e-coli.
- 4) **WaterWatch Updates:** Neil Hendrickson stated that WaterWatch will be helping Environmental Commission with the Well Test Program in October.
- 5) **Township Updates:** Nothing to report.

### **ONGOING BUSINESS:**

- 1) **Trails Subcommittee:** The board discussed various trails that need to be mowed and cut back. Chris John will inquire and update the board as to the status of a soil conservation issue with a neighboring property next to White Oak Trail.
- 2) **Stewardship:** John Klotz stated that he received an email from a resident concerning a field that was mowed and John stated that particular field was not on the Stewardship schedule for mowing. Vice Chair Allen will discuss timing of the mowing schedule with the Director of Public Works.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Nothing to report.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** No comments

**COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD:** Neil Hendrickson stated that this is the time of year that he typically orders tree seedlings for the annual give-away. Neil stated that although the budget is tight, he will request monies from the Township Committee to purchase the seedlings.

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**ADJOURN:** Neil Hendrickson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by John Klotz, followed by unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Meg A. Slutter