



**Township of Pequannock
Open Space Advisory Committee**

February 11, 2019, 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 7:03 pm.

Voting Members Present (X):

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

Others Present (X):

X	Frank Pinto, Spinelli & Pinto Consulting, LLC		
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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 Steinthal seconded by Jones, the Open Session minutes of the January 14, 2019 meeting were approved unanimously.

Township Council Report:

Mr. Herd reported that the first meeting for the 2019 budget is being held Saturday, February 23rd, from 9 AM to noon. Tomorrow is a regular Council meeting. The water level at the dog park was discussed. The park serves as regional detention basin. Communications are being held with Riverdale regarding Harrison Road. The historic train station needs a new roof.

Planning Board Report:

Jeff reported that the flag lot on Jefferson Street never came through at the last meeting.

Environmental Commission Report:

Jeff reported that they are planning a mini bio-blitz. A date has not yet been chosen. Floral, fauna and birders will be on hand to teach identification techniques for various species.

Historic District Commission Report:

Bob reported that Ed Engelbart is now the Vice-Chairman of the Morris County Historic Preservation Trust Fund Review Board. There was talk with the Historic Society with Dave and Elaine Stapp. They have an ambitious plan for the Society that includes improvements/restorations to the Martin Berry House. A long discussion ensued relative to a town focused movie is being developed. The Council will be discussing the matter at an upcoming meeting.

Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee Report:

Rudy reported that the Hoedown is set for Sept 14th. Parks and Rec is due for a new master plan this year and will begin working on that soon.

Correspondence:

Frank S reported that we need the ROSI updated for any new grant requests to Green Acres.

Old Business

1. Pompton Riverwalk

Tree Subcommittee – Joe reported the subcommittee met two weeks ago. There are various corrections needed to maintain the trees that have been planted along Riverside Drive. Pruning and maintenance is planned for the end of March. March 30 & 31 are the targeted dates. Each tree will be checked and pruned and mulched as well as tagged to identify the species.

Kiosk at Riverside – Scout Project – Joe reported that this is completely finished.

Kiosk – Rotary Club – Joe spoke at the Rotary last week. They will build and cover all expenses before the end of May. This will be the fourth and final kiosk for the Riverwalk and will completely finish the project.

NJDWSC – Bauer & Covello Easement Updates – Frank stated there is no update on these projects. Frank needs to speak with Bob Oostdyk relative to the Covello piece. Updates should be available at the next month's meeting.

Phillips Edison aka Rt 23 Plaza – Frank stated there is no update on this project.

ARC Group Property – Frank reported that the appraisal is underway and should be completed soon.

Manno/Olynyk Property - Frank reported that the appraisal is complete. The Township Council will review a potential offer at the next meeting. A meeting with the landowner will be scheduled for shortly thereafter.

2. NYS&W Rail Trail – Joe stated that there is no real update. Project is still on schedule for May groundbreaking.

3. Aquatic Park Development – Joe reported that this is a project that needs a meeting with the Parks and Recreation Committee as well as the Open Space Committee for it to be successful. A joint meeting is being planned and might occur in March or April.

4. Shotmeyer Property – Frank and Joe reported that they just met before the meeting with John O'Brien, the son-in-law of the deceased Albert Shotmeyer. Mr. O'Brien indicated that they are willing sellers and have a LOI related to the wetlands. He stated that the LOI shows little to no wetlands on the property. It is still in the floodplain/floodway, but the land does have significant development potential. The Open Space Committee has sought this property for many years as a buffer to Woodland Park and to also help create a loop trail around the lake. Ryan will discuss this matter with the Township Council.

Jeff was appointed as the liaison from the Planning Board to the Open Space Committee.

March 28th there is a Morris County Open Space workshop session in the evening at the Morris County Cultural Center. Frank Pinto plans on attending on behalf of the Township.

Adjournment:

On motion of member Spizzirri with all in agreement, the meeting concluded at 8:50 PM.

**Next meeting is Scheduled for:
Monday, March 11, 2019; 7:00 pm
530 Newark-Pompton Turnpike
Pompton Plains, NJ 07444**

Respectfully Submitted,

Frank

Frank Pinto, Committee Facilitator