

**HARDING TOWNSHIP  
HARDING OPEN SPACE TRUST (HOST)  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 9, 2020  
GOTOMEETING  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

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**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**OPEN MEETING:**

Mr. Pfeiffer called the regular meeting of the Harding Open Space Trust Committee to order at 7:30 p.m. and announced the meeting is being held via a GoToMeeting and was called in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

**HOST Attendance:** Ms. Devine (via telephone), Mr. Dietz (via telephone), Mr. Jones, Mr. Novotny (via telephone), Mr. Pfeiffer (via telephone), Mr. Platt (via telephone), Mrs. Riley (via telephone), Mrs. Somers (via telephone), and Mr. Wepler (via telephone)

**Excused Absence:** None

**Township Attendance:** Mrs. Sharp, Secretary

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**MINUTES OF JUNE 10, 2020:**

Mr. Pfeiffer asked if there were any comments or changes with regards to the June 10, 2020 meeting minutes. Mrs. Somers mentioned that her names has one m not two. Mr. Dietz asked for a change in the minutes to Number 14 with regard to Cresley. Should be Cresley/Healey. Mrs. Sharp will amend the minutes. Upon a motion made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mrs. DevineRiley, Mr. Platt abstained, and with a vote of all ayes, none opposed, the amended HOST meeting minutes for June 10, 2020 were accepted.

Mr. Wepler asked that the March minutes be amended as he was not on the site visit. Mrs. Sharp will amend the March minutes. Upon a motion to amend the March minutes to reflect Mr. Wepler was not on the site visit was made by Mr. Jones, and seconded by Mrs. Somers, and with a vote of all ayes, none opposed the March minutes will be amended.

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**HOST UPDATES:**

**VonZuben** -- Mrs. Devine informed HOST that the Harding Land Trust would like to do a presentation to HOST regarding the VonZuben property. Mr. Clew will present information regarding flowering trees. Mr. Pfeiffer asked what the cost is. Mrs. Devine explained it would be 50/50. Mr. Jones asked that the information be sent to Mrs. Sharp for the August meeting which will include the plan and costs.

**Dickson's Mill Bridge** – Mrs. Somers informed HOST that since Mr. Platt was given the responsibility to oversee the Dickson's Mill Bridge for the Township, she introduced Mr. Platt to a colleague. Mrs. Somers colleague is very knowledgeable with regard to old bridges. Mrs. Somers explained that the ASHTO Standards have recently changed. With the new rules, the obsolete will change. Mrs. Somers commented that Mr. Fox has been working with Mr. Vitz. Mr. Platt mentioned that we would like to remind Mr. Vitz of his communication with the Township at a previous meeting. Mr. Pfeiffer asked who made the changes to the ASHTO Standards. Mrs.

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Somers explained they were changed by the US Department of Transportation. They were changed in 2019 and it speaks about narrower bridges. A discussion ensued regarding the bridge.

**Gatehouse** – Mr. Dietz commented that Harding Land Trust and Harding Township are swapping interest in this property. Mr. Dietz commented what impact will this have on HOST with funding if it is not part of the agreement. Mr. Jones explained that Harding Land Trust will no longer own 14% interest in Glen Alpin. There will no longer be a co-tenants agreement in the Gatehouse because the values are different. The agreement goes till March 2025 and the Township will honor the maintenance till March 2025 (snow plowing, lawn care). Mr. Jones explained the Township Committee Ordinance allows the Township to effectuate the deal. A question was asked regarding what happens at the end of the five years. Will the Harding Land Trust be responsible for the funding. Mr. Jones responded with yes.

A question was asked regarding the \$120,000 for the Gateway Project. Mr. Jones commented it is on the Township's contribution as an Open Space project to the Gatehouse. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the Gateway Project. A suggestion was made that a refresher of the Gateway Project be made to HOST at the August meeting.

**Master Plan** – Mr. Dietz thanked Mr. Jones and Mrs. Sharp for their assistance with the Master Plan. A discussion on the Dark Sky portion of the Master Plan ensued.

**Disposal/Diversion** – A question was asked if the Township has enough properties for the disposal/diversion. Mr. Jones explained he believes there is enough property to effectuate the diversion. Mr. Pfeiffer asked if the State approved the number. Mr. Jones responded with yes.

**New Business:**

**Appleton Property** -- Mr. Jones commented that the Appleton property name which was held in a Trust was transferred to a new name. A closing date has not been made. Mr. Wepler asked about the second Appleton property. Is there money to purchase the second property. A discussion ensued. These two properties have been on HOST's list of open space properties for many years. A consensus of the HOST Committee was to purchase the second Appleton property. Mr. Jones and Mr. Platt will discuss the purchase of the second Appleton property with the Township Committee.

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**OTHER MATTERS THAT MAY COME BEFORE HOST AND HEARING PERSONS PRESENT:**

There were no hearing persons present and no further business.

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**ADJOURNMENT – Mr. Pfeiffer**

With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Jones and seconded by Mr. Wepler. The meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa A. Sharp  
Secretary, Harding Open Space Trust Committee

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