

**HARDING TOWNSHIP
HARDING OPEN SPACE TRUST (HOST)
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2022
21 BLUE MILL ROAD, NEW VERNON, NJ 07976**

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

OPEN MEETING:

Mr. Pfeiffer opened the meeting by announcing adequate notice of this June 8, 2022 HOST meeting was given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

HOST Attendance: Ms. Chipperson, Ms. Devine, Mr. DeNave, Mr. Jones, Mr. Novotny, Mr. Pfeiffer, Mrs. Somers, and Mr. Wepler

Excused Absence: None

Township Attendance: Mrs. Sharp, Secretary

Public Attendance: None

ACCEPTANCE OF THE HOST MINUTES FOR: APRIL 13, 2022:

April 13, 2022 Minutes:

L. Pfeiffer asked if anyone had questions or comments with regard to the April 13, 2022 meeting minutes. Upon a motion made by L. Wepler, seconded by J. Somers, and with a vote of all ayes, none opposed the April 13, 2022 meeting minutes were accepted.

HOST UPDATES:

Dear Property

It was noted that trees at the Dear property need to have vines removed. The vines are growing up the tree and killing it. L. Sharp noted that J. Fennimore is scheduled to cut and trim the Dear Property at the end of June.

Municipal Trail / Bayne Park / Memorial

L. Wepler commented that T. Toribio, DPW Superintendent has done an excellent job with the trail due to the storm the other week. V. DeNave reported that work is commencing at Bayne Park. Will look at completing the trail in the future. M. Devine commented that completing a hook around Bayne Pond would be good. A discussion ensued regarding Bayne Park.

Harding Open Space Trust Committee
Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2022

T. Jones commented about an article in the paper about siblings of WW II buried together. The article mentioned the Bang's Brothers. J. Novotny mentioned that there are Chestnut and Oak trees that the Township could place at the Parks (Memorial/Bayne) in honor of Veterans.

T. Jones reported that a Management Plan for Bayne Park will need to be completed as well as a management plan for: Appleton 1 and 2, Culbertson, 163 Lee's Hill. A discussion on who would complete these plans ensued. A member from HOST will look at drafting these management plans. J. Novotny commented that markings are needed on our open space properties so they tell a person where to go.

Environmental Commission

J. Novotny reported that the Environmental Commission discussed Margetts Field at their June meeting and recommended exploring options. A discussion about Margetts Field and a few dead trees that need to be looked at ensued. HOST members commented that Margetts Field is intended to be a Hay Field.

J. Novotny explained that on June 21, 2022 at 5 pm the Environmental Commission will be walking Primrose. If any HOST members would like to join the EC, all is welcome.

Centennial Update

R. Chipperson reported that September 1, 2022 is the actual birthday of Harding and a tree planting ceremony along with time capsules will be conducted at Memorial Park. October 1, 2022 is the big event which will be held at Margetts Field. There will be fireworks, food, and fun. M. Devine mentioned that Harding Land Trust is hosting a horse show at the showgrounds on August 7, 2022 and HOST members are welcome to join in. It was discussed that HOST will have a table at the October 1, 2022 event. J. Somers mentioned she would help as did J. Novotny.

Preserved Gateways

A discussion ensued regarding preserved gateways in Harding. J. Somers commented that there is always a method behind the property. J. Novotny commented that the mission is to connect all the preserved properties. T. Jones mentioned it is important to establish why Harding Township purchased a particular property. Need to maintain the Great Brook Greenway. T. Jones mentioned if an aquifer is being preserved that needs to be mentioned in the management plan. A discussion on the preservation of properties and mapping the properties ensued. V. DeNave commented he will be working on the files that exist for the open space properties to ensure there is a copy of a deed, map, etc.

Next HOST meeting

Due to vacations, it was recommended that there will be no July HOST meeting. The next meeting will be August 10, 2022 at 7:30 pm.

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

There were no hearing persons present.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by L. Wepler and T. Jones. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa A. Sharp
Secretary, Harding Open Space Trust Committee