

Open Space Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: February 8, 2022 (meeting via video & phone due to COVID-19)

Present: Dey, Hess, Hickman, Jamanow, Knell, Maines, Matlack, Mayer, Perry, Rich, Zipin; Absent:

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Mr. Mayer at 7:03.
2. **Consideration of Minutes.** The minutes from the January 11, 2021 were tabled until next month.
3. **Status Update: Open Space Encroachments:** Nancy will distribute a form for residents to fill out and submit if they observe an encroachment. Q: Should the form be shared on the OS Facebook page? Sounds like a good idea.
4. **Status Update: Signage Order:** The signs have been ordered (Little Woods and Water Works); still waiting for them to be delivered.
5. **Status Update: Swede Run Trails:** The trail that goes from parking lot towards Delran is completely overgrown – can no longer see the gravel path.
6. **Status Update: Update on Trucksess, Pearson and Flying Feather:** Trucksess – Gub did drawings of possible uses/lots (preserving/developing) for the property and spoke with Tegan Trucksess; we can't move forward until she makes a decision. Pearson: property at the bottom of Moorestown-Mt. Laurel Road; Ms. Pearson is interested in preserving it; NJ Natural Lands Trust owns adjacent lots. Flying Feather: Still waiting for their sub-division plan to be submitted. Garwood: Two lots cross the street from Esther Yanai; question about sewage; one lot has a stream going through it; stream is 140 ft from sewage and it's outside the wetlands buffer; lot was approved.
7. **Status Update: Update on Open Space Master Plan Status:** Kevin and Nancy are reviewing it and will get it back to Brian for any changes.
8. **New Business: Goals for 2022:** Suggestions: Form stewardship committees. Participate in the new trail initiative. [*Suggestions from our January meeting:* Public Outreach: Doing social media; Facebook group; try to put info out there about our Open Spaces. Updating the Take-A-Hike Open Space Brochure: we just had more printed; does it need to be updated? If not, could just put an insert inside. Or put out a new brochure about stewardship? Interacting with younger children to make them aware of Open Spaces: For example, run a photography challenge or other event to engage them. Connection to High School Environmental Group: helped build bridges at Esther Yanai; clearing brush and tree growth at Susan Stevens Halbe site.]
9. **New Business: Open Space Committee to Draft a letter to be sent to properties adjacent to Open Space.** Ray drafted a letter and sent it around for review by the committee. The list of people the letter needs to go to is quite extensive. We will aim to get the letter ready for approval by next month.
10. **New Business: Carson's Farm:** Harry had email from the Evergreens, that they are not interested in developing Carson's Farm. There was a development plan that Brian Slough put together a few years ago.
11. **New Business: Township Liason and Staff Updates:** Council Member Dave Zipin: Council trying to define and foster awareness of specific issues this year. No actionable items for OSAC at this time. Some of this is messaging and trying to raise awareness – which fits in with the OSAC initiative.
12. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 by Mr. Mayer. The next scheduled meeting is March 8, 2022.