

Ocean County Natural Lands Trust Fund  
Minutes of Advisory Committee Meeting  
April 25, 2018

Present : Alan Avery, Ron Dancer, William Fox, Terry O'Leary, John Wnek

Absent: Ed Bennett, Paul Brush, and D'Arcy Rohan-Green and John Bacchione

Also present at the meeting were: Tony Agliata, (OCPD), Mark Villinger (OCPD), Jenny Mance (OCPD), Thomas Thorsen (OCPD), Stephanie Specht (OCPD), Kayla Kubiel (OCPD), Geoffrey Lohmeyer (OC Parks), Mat Thompson (County Counsel).

1. In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Mr. Avery called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of the Minutes – February 28, 2018

A MOTION was made by Mr. Fox and seconded by Mr. Avery to approve the February 28<sup>th</sup> minutes. Mr. Dancer and Mr. Wnek abstained. All in favor, motion carried.

Chairman Avery advised Mr. Villinger to change the agenda and go directly to the Open Space Definition. Mr. Villinger advised the Committee that last year the legislature approved an amendment to the Open Space Act where the NLTF came out of in 1997. Last year's legislation amended the definition of acquisition to include the cost of demolitions of buildings in acquisition. The resolution will bring the program guidelines in compliance with the amendment to the statute and a recommendation to the Freeholders to take similar action to the program. MOTION was made by Mr. Wnek and seconded by Mr. Fox to approve the resolution. Roll was called. All in favor, motion carried.

The secretary read the resolution to enter into Closed Session.

MOTION was made by Mr. Fox and seconded by Mr. O'Leary to move into Closed Session at 5:05 pm. All in favor, motion carried.

MOTION was made by Mr. Fox and seconded by Mr. Dancer to go back into Open Session at 5:15 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.

4. Program Update and Closings:  
#300 Lafayette Associates, Barnegat Twp. – 20.78 acres  
Mr. Villinger informed the Committee that this property closed on March 5, 2018.

Presently, 17,000 acres have been preserved under the Natural Lands Program.

5. Public Comment

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6. New Business

New Applications:

#497 TR Ridgeway-Panetta, Jackson Twp. – 5.63 acres

Mr. Villinger advised the Committee that the property is assessed at \$25,600 with an asking price of \$45,000.

#498 Stichter Donation, Ocean Township – 0.73 acres

Mr. Villinger advised the Committee that this property is a donation and will be discussed in Closed Session.

#499 TR Ridgeway-Plungis, Jackson Twp. – 4.55 acres

Mr. Villinger advised that the asking price is \$115,000. One appraisal will be scheduled for both Ridgeway properties. Funding is available from the Department of Defense and Pinelands Conservation funding may be available.

NJ DEP Land Swap

Mr. Villinger advised that years ago the County acquired the Wading River East Branch acquisition in Barnegat and Stafford. Since the State had no funds, the County acquired the property and put a provision for a transfer or swap exchange with the State for equal property.

Mr. Villinger advised that the County is in the process of swapping 270 acres for the 200 acres around the Cedar Bridge Tavern Historic Site.

The first public hearing is on May 16<sup>th</sup> in Stafford at 4 pm and at Cloverdale Farm at 7pm. On May 30<sup>th</sup>, there is another public hearing at Cattus Island and on May 31<sup>st</sup> the State House Commission. The public comment period ends June 14<sup>th</sup>.

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Chairman Avery advised that in Closed Session the Committee discussed three nominations.

MOTION was made by Mr. Fox and seconded by Mr. Dancer to recommend to the Board of Chosen Freeholders acquisition of #325 North Bay Ave. Ext. in Toms River Township-20.08 acres in an amount not to exceed \$850,000. Roll was called . All in favor, motion carried.

MOTION was made by Mr. O'Leary and seconded by Mr. Wnek to recommend to the Board of Chosen Freeholders acquisition of #466 Berkeley Island-Bosse in Berkeley Township-3.62 acres in an amount not to exceed \$25,000. Roll was called. All in favor,motion carried.

#490 Wanamaker Ext. in Island Heights Borough was also discussed, but no action is being taken at this time.

MOTION was made by Mr. O'Leary and seconded by Mr. Wnek to recommend to the Board of Chosen Freeholders a donation of #498 Stichter in Ocean Township – 4.55 acres. Roll was called. All in favor, motion carried.

MOTION was made by Mr. Wnek and seconded by Mr. Dancer to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 p.m. The next NLTF meeting will be held on May 23, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Darlene Tomaino, Committee Secretary