

**HARDING TOWNSHIP
HARDING OPEN SPACE TRUST (HOST)
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2019
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

OPEN MEETING:

Mr. Weppler, Vice Chair called the regular meeting of the Harding Open Space Trust Committee to order at 7:35 p.m. and announced the meeting was called in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

HOST Attendance: Mr. Dietz, Mr. Jones, Mr. Novotny, Mr. Platt, Mrs. Riley and Mr. Weppler

Excused Absence: Mrs. Devine, Mr. Pfeiffer, Mr. Sovolos, and Mrs. Somers

Township Attendance: Mrs. Sharp, Secretary

Members of the Public: None

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 13, 2019:

L. Weppler asked if there were any comments or changes with regards to the November 13, 2019 meeting minutes. Upon a motion made by Mr. Weppler, seconded by Mr. Novotny, and with a vote of all ayes, none opposed, the HOST meeting minutes for November 13, 2019 were accepted.

HOST UPDATES:

Masterplan

Mr. Weppler reported he went through all the HOST members recommendations from the November meeting and incorporated them in the draft copy of the recommendations by HOST to be sent to the Planning Board. HOST reviewed the draft document. The following items were discussed:

- * Rural Character of Harding
- * Streams -- Need to protect Harding's streams
- * Greenway/Silverbrook -- Discussion ensued regarding the greenways around Primrose. It was recommended to add a sentence in the draft regarding greenways.
- * Stream Corridor Protection
- * Farmland Preservation

All HOST members agreed with the draft recommendations prepared by L. Weppler. L. Weppler will include the items discussed this evening and send it for a final review among all HOST members.

Blue Bird Boxes

N. Platt reported he would personally fund and oversee the blue bird boxes. L. Weppler explained how the blue bird boxes came up. L. Weppler appeared before the Township Committee on December 9, 2019 to present HOST's five (5) management plans. The Township Committee asked to see the budget numbers for HOST. The

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Management Plans and the 2020 budget will be presented at the Township Committee's January 13, 2020 meeting. L. Wepler explained the bird boxes were discussed as boundary markers for the Dear property. N. Platt mentioned that this was a good idea and should be done for all properties. A discussion ensued regarding blue bird boxes.

Margetts Woods

L. Wepler reported that there are pine trees that have fallen at Margetts Woods. A discussion ensued regarding having someone from forestry come and evaluate these pine trees.

Mrs. Shapr mentioned she reviewed the proposal prepared by Mr. Johnston on Margetts Field but the proposal did not report the timing of the haying of Margetts Field.

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

With no hearing persons present and no further business, a motion to adjourn into executive session at 8:35 pm was made by Mr. Platt and seconded by Mrs. Riley.

ADJOURNMENT – Mr. Pfeiffer

The meeting adjourned into executive session at 8:35 pm and will not return to open session. No formal action will be made in Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa A. Sharp
Secretary, Harding Open Space Trust Committee