

RARITAN TOWNSHIP WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ACTION COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20,2016
MEETING BEGINS AT 8:00AM

MEETING CALLED:

Meeting called to order at 8:04am

ROLL CALL:

ROLL CALL	PRESENT	ABSENT
Richard Chen, Township Committee Member	✓	
Donald Hutchins, Superintendent of DPW or Designee Member	✓	
Amy Green, Open Space Advisory Committee	✓	
Steve DellaVella, Resident Member	✓	
John Schrade, Resident Member	✓	

OPEN SESSION:

1. PRIVELEDGE OF THE FLOOR: ANYONE MAY ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE FOR 3 MINUTES

Barb Suchow- Please have meetings posted on website. Have wildlife protected, preserve wildlife lives, essential element of wildlife package, look at letters send in 1,000 over cumulative. Dropped paperwork for us to look at.

2. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. All members agree to be reappointed to 2017. Don to advice clerk.

 - b. Meeting Dates: 8am – Richard reviewed meeting dates for 2017
1/17 , 2/21 , 3/28 , 4/18 , 5/23 , None in June, July or August, 9/12 , 10/3 , None in November , 12/12
Don to give meeting list to Clerk to publish/copy committee

 - c. Amy Green – See proposal document
 - 1. Reaching out to Jay Kelly and others
 - 2. Amy proposing to fence in Thatcher Hill Preserve (Potential)
 - 3. Plum Brook – small areas of fenced off areas possible
 - 4. Urbach Farm – Larger area (very large), small field not being farmed.
Good candidate for successional reforestation
 - 5. Walnut Brook Preserve – No understory, lots of invasives
- Richard –
- 1. Cost- 10' fence – research costs
 - 2. RWV Foundation – deer survey, forest monitoring (not free)

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d. Amy Green – Farm Bill possible for funding for fence

Don – Amy property fenced in must be able to be done so human access is limited or not allowed on a regular basis.

Steve – Which of the 5 strategies would be highest priority

Amy - #1 and #2 are highest priority. Spoke of invasive species, biodiversity, diseases

Rich –

1. John and Rich to look into Nature Preservation act and see what this may be about.
2. Speak to local bee keeper to see his thoughts and speak with Jeannie about Butterfly habitat.
3. Multiyear process – look at overall program
4. Steve to look at hunting on private property, speak with state fish/wildlife – discussion followed on some rules, concerns with regards to this

3. **Public Comment – Privilege of the floor**

Barb Suchow – Look at Diseases that affect tree growth. German book on forestation, recommends that we read this.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:52am.