

**Raritan Township Open Space Advisory Committee Agenda.**  
**Wednesday April 10, 2019 5:30 PM Raritan Township Municipal Bldg. One Municipal Drive**

Members: Tony Hajjar Township Engineer, Chair - Amy Greene, Vice Chair - Harry Quinn, Joel Throne, Timothy McCarthy, James Miller, Jesse Allen, Mayor Jeff Kuhl and Committeewoman Karen Gilbert

Public Comment:

Open Session Agenda:

1. Township Open Space Plan Review – Jessica Caldwell, our planner, compiled the draft plan, including the previously solicited public comments. Comments were provided by the Open Space Committee at the March meeting. Amy Greene is finalizing edits to the document and will provide to Jessica Caldwell. The Raritan Township Planning Board will then review and adopt as the Open Space Element of the Township Master Plan. The adopted plan will then be submitted to NJDEP Green Acres. The plan is a requirement for continued Green Acres Planning Incentive Grant funding for Land Acquisition.
2. Recreation and Open Space Inventory (ROSI) – The updated ROSI was submitted to NJDEP Green Acres 12/3/18. The ROSI update is required for Green Acres funding.
3. Farmland Preservation Plan – The plan is nearing finalization by representatives from the Open Space Committee and the Agricultural Committee and will be provided to the Planning Board to be adopted as the Agricultural Preservation Element of the Master Plan.
4. Walnut Brook Preserve, Levico Tract - Tree planting was performed in 2018 with a grant from The Nature Conservancy and assistance from the Raritan Headwaters Association. The Wildlife Management Committee has proposed to fence in a 3 acre portion of the planted area to exclude deer herbivory, facilitate planted tree growth and facilitate establishment of seedlings to create an understory and new trees. This was considered by the Township Committee but has deferred funding this area in favor of fencing a 1 acre mature forest at Morales Park. RHA also is willing to help us with checking the 2019 plantings and performing new plantings with the assistance of volunteers. We would also likely plant sycamores which are fast growing and were not available last year from Pinelands Nursery. A Flemington Boy Scout troop is interested in helping and we can seek other volunteers as we did in 2018. Amy contacted Raritan Headwaters. We are planning a Fall 2019 planting. Donations for the tree planting are welcome and can be sent to  

Funds to purchase trees can be sent to: Raritan Headwaters, PO Box 273, Gladstone, NJ 07934 Attn: Kristi MacDonald, PhD, Director of Science and Stewardship (908) 234-1852, ext. 322
5. Toll Brothers is paying for planting of over 200 trees or equivalent smaller trees at Micek Farm Park and Mine Brook Park. Preserve. Amy Greene, after consulting with John Morgan Thomas, prepared a plan to plant 190 trees and shrubs at Micek Farm Park on Johanna Farm Road and 32 native trees and shrubs at Mine Brook Park. Provided plan and specifications to Tony Hajjar and John Morgan Thomas for submission to Toll Brothers. Tony?
6. Resolution to close the public portion of the meeting to go into closed session to review property acquisitions.

**Next meeting 5:30 PM second Wednesday of the month:** May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14, September 11, October 9, November 13, December 11, 2019

**This Committee is not subject to OPMA in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-8.**