

**MINUTES  
MORRIS COUNTY  
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION TRUST FUND COMMITTEE**

**October 19, 2021**

Held remotely via WebEx:

<https://morriscountynj.webex.com/morriscountynj/j.php?MTID=m6748633199f15d4268c4492d3c46a7c1>

Phone In: 1-408-418-9388

Access Code: 233 813 41390

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 P.M. by Chairman Jay Thomson.

Members present:

Patrick Antonetti, Region VI – Lincoln Park  
Astri Baillie, Region VIII – Madison  
Betty Cass-Schmidt, Morris County Park Commission  
Jennifer Cooper, Region I – Chester Borough  
Nita Galate, Morris County Planning Board and Trail Program Advisory Committee  
Thomas “Ace” Gallagher, Region VII – Hanover  
David Kaplan, Region V – Parsippany-Troy Hills  
Suzanne McCluskey, At-Large  
Mohamed Seyam, At-Large  
Laura Szwak, Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority  
Jay Thomson, Morris County Agriculture Development Board

Members with Excused Absence:

Jacqueline (Jaki) Albrecht, Region III – Roxbury  
Robert Norton, Region IV – Wharton

Also attending:

John Napolitano, Esq., Morris County Counsel (arrived 6:59 P.M.)  
William Johnson, Esq., Special Counsel, Morris County Preservation Trust Fund  
Joe Barilla, Director, Morris County Office of Planning & Preservation  
Barbara Murray, Open Space Program Coordinator, Morris County Office of Planning & Preservation  
Robert G. Schwarz, MAI, Review Appraiser, Morris County Preservation Trust (arrived 6:36 P.M.)

Members of the Public:

None

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT**

Chairman Thomson stated that, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of the meeting had been provided and filed with the Town of Morristown, the Morris County Clerk, the Daily Record and the Star Ledger.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

WHEREAS, pursuant to P.L. 1975 Ch. 231, the Open Public Meetings Act, the Open Space Trust Fund Committee may exclude the public to discuss matters as are provided under the Act; and

WHEREAS, said Act provided that this Committee may exclude the public from the discussion of such matters,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Open Space Trust Fund Committee hereby excludes the public in order to discuss such matters. The general nature of the subject to be discussed is as follows: Purchase, lease or acquisition of real property. On a motion by Jennifer Cooper, seconded by Astri Baillie, the committee closed the open portion of the meeting and voted to conduct a closed session at 6:07 P.M.

**RETURN TO MEETING**

The meeting reopened to the public at 9:03 P.M.

**ACTION AS A RESULT OF CLOSED SESSION**

2021 Open Space Recommendations – On a motion by Suzanne McCluskey, seconded by Jennifer Cooper, the Committee approved transmitting their 2021 open space grant recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners, per the discussion held in executive session with abstentions and dissensions for specific projects as noted. A roll call vote was taken. Aye: Antonetti, Baillie, Cass-Schmidt, Cooper, Galate, Gallagher, Kaplan, McCluskey, Seyam, Szwak, Thomson. Nay: None Abstain: None

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Laura Szwak, seconded by Astri Baillie, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 P.M. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara J. Murray