

**WARREN COUNTY MUNICIPAL AND CHARITABLE CONSERVANCY
TRUST FUND COMMITTEE**
500 Mt. Pisgah Avenue
Oxford, NJ 07863

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
November 5, 2014**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Fineran opened the meeting at 7:31 p.m., read the Open Public Meeting Notice, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Louis Cartabona	Ellen Demeter	Desiree Denker (arrived at 8:15 p.m.)
Beth Calabrese	Joel McGreen	Timothy Bodine
Charles Fineran	Nancy Miller	David Smith
Todd Tersigni	Jean Smolha	

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Corey Tierney, Christina Cortis

Others Present: See attached sign-in sheet

MINUTES: The October 6, 2014 minutes were reviewed. Mr. Tersigni motioned, seconded by Mrs. Demeter, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A letter from Bonnie Butler, the Mayor of Franklin Township was sent to Mr. Tierney to inform him that the township is awaiting delivery of a Green Acres sign to be installed at the property, upon receipt. Ms. Miller has agreed to meet with her.

An email from Mike King of Phillipsburg was shared with the Committee (see attached). Mr. King sent a letter to the local newspaper and to the Board of Chosen Freeholders regarding the importance of preserving open space. The Committee reviewed and acknowledged receipt of the letter.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

2014 MCCTFC Grant Funding Recommendations: 2014 Chairman Fineran thanked Mr. Tierney, his staff, and all of the Committee members for being a very active and dedicated group of participants.

Mr. Tierney distributed a spreadsheet with the grant balance after fully-funding the Vass House project for \$18,000 at the last meeting, along with the original funding requests and 60/40% revision requests for the remainder of eligible applicants. If all of the remaining projects are funded at the lowest percentage possible, there would still be an approximate \$60,000 shortfall.

Mr. Cartabona suggested that Frelinghuysen Township's request be reduced by 25% (\$68,750), since they were the only applicant who did not reduce their original request of \$275,000. That would eliminate the \$60,000 shortfall and the remainder of the funding could go to Mount Bethel Church.

Ms. Demeter asked what happens if one or more Committee members don't agree with the proposed funding recommendations or if there are specific projects that members feel should not get funded at all. Mr. Tierney explained that the Committee can take a poll to see what projects they do or do not want to fund and make up the shortfall that way. Recommendations are determined by majority vote.

Mr. Cartabona motioned, seconded by Ms. Miller to request a straw poll, by show of hands to see if there are any projects that members do not want to fund at all. Mr. Fineran asked by show of hands, how many members feels that a project should not receive funding (seven members raised their hands).

Since a majority of the members have at least one project that they do not want to fund, a roll call for each remaining project will be done to determine which projects will NOT receive any funding.

Roll Call: (Yes to approve that **Alpha Borough Parkland East** receives ANY funding.)

Mr. Cartabona - Abstain	Mr. Fineran - Yes
Mrs. Demeter - No	Mrs. Miller - Yes
Ms. Calabrese - No	Mr. Smith - Yes
Mr. McGreen - Yes	Mr. Tersigni - No
Mr. Bodine - No	Ms. Smolha - No

Totals: Yes: 4, No: 5, Abstain: 1

Alpha Borough Parkland will not receive any funding.

Roll Call: (Yes to approve that **Frelinghuysen Township Forest Preserve Addition-2** receives ANY funding.)

Mr. Cartabona - Yes	Mr. Fineran - Yes
Mrs. Demeter - No	Mrs. Miller - No
Ms. Calabrese - No	Mr. Smith - No
Mr. McGreen - Yes	Mr. Tersigni - No
Mr. Bodine - No	Ms. Smolha - Abstain

Totals: Yes: 3, No: 6, Abstain: 1

Frelinghuysen Township Forest Preserve Addition-2 will not receive any funding.

Roll Call: (Yes to approve that the **First Presbyterian Church of Blairstown** receives ANY funding.)

Mr. Cartabona - Yes	Mr. Fineran - No
Mrs. Demeter - Yes	Mrs. Miller - Yes
Ms. Calabrese - Yes	Mr. Smith - Yes
Mr. McGreen - No	Mr. Tersigni - Yes
Mr. Bodine - No	Ms. Smolha - Yes

Totals: Yes: 7, No: 3

The First Presbyterian Church of Blairstown will receive funding; the amount to be determined later.

Roll Call: (Yes to approve that the **Mount Bethel Church in Mansfield** receives ANY funding.)

Mr. Cartabona - Yes	Mr. Fineran - Yes
Mrs. Demeter - Yes	Mrs. Miller - Yes
Ms. Calabrese - Yes	Mr. Smith - Yes
Mr. McGreen - Yes	Mr. Tersigni - Yes
Mr. Bodine - Yes	Ms. Smolha - Yes

Totals: Yes: 10, No: 0

The Mount Bethel Church in Mansfield will receive funding; the amount to be determined later.

Roll Call: (Yes to approve that the **St. James Lutheran Church** receives ANY funding.)

Mr. Cartabona - Yes	Mr. Fineran - No
Mrs. Demeter - Yes	Mrs. Miller - Yes
Ms. Calabrese - Yes	Mr. Smith - Yes
Mr. McGreen - No	Mr. Tersigni - Yes
Mr. Bodine - Yes	Ms. Smolha - Yes

Totals: Yes: 8, No: 2

The St. James Lutheran Church will receive funding; the amount to be determined later.

Roll Call: (Yes to approve that the **United Methodist Church of Washington** receives ANY funding.)

Mr. Cartabona - Yes	Mr. Fineran - No
Mrs. Demeter - Yes	Mrs. Miller - Yes
Ms. Calabrese - Yes	Mr. Smith - Yes
Mr. McGreen - No	Mr. Tersigni - Yes
Mr. Bodine - Yes	Ms. Smolha - Yes

Totals: Yes: 8, No: 2

The United Methodist Church of Washington will receive funding; the amount to be determined later.

The polls eliminate the two open space projects, so the remaining \$782,000 will be distributed among the four historic preservation projects. The Committee now needs to determine what projects they want to fully fund or partially fund

Mr. Tersigni made a motion, seconded by Ms. Demeter to fund the Mount Bethel Church of Mansfield for their full request of \$154,931.25.

Roll Call: (Yes to approve that the **Mount Bethel Church of Mansfield** receives their full funding request of \$154,931.25.)

Mr. Cartabona - Yes	Mr. Fineran - Yes
Mrs. Demeter - Yes	Mrs. Miller - Yes
Ms. Calabrese - Yes	Mr. Smith - Yes
Mr. McGreen - No	Mr. Tersigni - Yes
Mr. Bodine - Yes	Ms. Smolha - Yes

Totals: Yes: 9, No: 1

The Mount Bethel Church of Mansfield will receive their full funding request of \$154,931.25.

Mr. Cartabona made a motion, seconded by Ms. Demeter to fund the St. James Lutheran Church for their full request of \$200,625.

Roll Call: (Yes to approve that the **St. James Lutheran Church** receives their full funding request of \$200,625.)

Mr. Cartabona - No	Mr. Fineran - No
Mrs. Demeter - Yes	Mrs. Miller - Yes
Ms. Calabrese - Yes	Mr. Smith - No
Mr. McGreen - No	Mr. Tersigni - Yes
Mr. Bodine - Yes	Ms. Smolha - Yes

Totals: Yes: 6, No: 4

The St. James Lutheran Church will receive their full funding request of \$200,625.

There was a discussion as to whether the initial polls were straw polls or official polls to not fund the open space projects. It was determined by the Committee that it was not a straw poll; it was an official poll to fund or not fund projects and majority voted to not fund the open space projects.

Mr. Cartabona made a motion, seconded by Ms. Demeter to fund the United Methodist Church of Washington for their full request of \$416,781.

Roll Call: (Yes to approve that the **United Methodist Church of Washington** receives their full funding request of \$416,781.)

Mr. Cartabona - No	Mr. Fineran - No
Mrs. Demeter - Yes	Mrs. Miller - No
Ms. Calabrese - Yes	Mr. Smith - No
Mr. McGreen - No	Mr. Tersigni - No
Mr. Bodine - No	Ms. Smolha - No

Totals: Yes: 2, No: 8

The United Methodist Church of Washington will not receive their full funding request.

Mr. Cartabona made a motion, seconded by Mr. Tersigni to fund the First Presbyterian Church of Blairstown for their full request of \$88,116.

Roll Call: (Yes to approve that the **First Presbyterian Church of Blairstown** receives their full funding request of \$88,116.)

Mr. Cartabona - No	Mr. Fineran - No
Mrs. Demeter - Yes	Mrs. Miller - No
Ms. Calabrese - Yes	Mr. Smith - No
Mr. McGreen - No	Mr. Tersigni - No
Mr. Bodine - No	Ms. Smolha - No

Totals: Yes: 2, No: 8

The First Presbyterian Church of Blairstown will not receive their full funding request.

At 8:15 p.m., Ms. Denker arrived at the meeting; roll calls will now include her vote.

Mr. Tersigni made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cartabona to fund the First Presbyterian Church of Blirstown at \$52,869.60, which is 60% of their initial request.

Roll Call: (Yes to approve that the **First Presbyterian Church of Blirstown** receives \$52,869.60, which is 60% of their request.)

Mr. Cartabona - Yes	Mr. Fineran - Yes
Ms. Denker - Yes	Mrs. Miller - Yes
Mrs. Demeter - Yes	Mr. Smith - Yes
Ms. Calabrese - Yes	Mr. Tersigni - Yes
Mr. McGreen - No	Ms. Smolha - Yes
Mr. Bodine - Yes	

Totals: Yes: 10, No: 1

The First Presbyterian Church of Blirstown will receive \$52,869.60, which is 60% of their request.

Mr. Tersigni made a motion, seconded by Ms. Miller to fund the United Methodist Church of Washington at \$225,195.50, which is 60% of their request.

Roll Call: (Yes to approve that the **United Methodist Church of Washington** receives \$225,195.50, which is 60% of their request.)

Mr. Cartabona - No	Mr. Fineran - Yes
Ms. Denker - Yes	Mrs. Miller - Yes
Mrs. Demeter - Yes	Mr. Smith - Yes
Ms. Calabrese - Yes	Mr. Tersigni - Yes
Mr. McGreen - No	Ms. Smolha - Yes
Mr. Bodine - No	

Totals: Yes: 8, No: 3

The United Methodist Church of Washington will receive \$225,195.50, which is 60% of their request.

After allocating funds to the above-mentioned projects, there was a balance of \$148,378.65 in MCCTFC funds. Mr. Tersigni made a motion, seconded by Ms. Demeter to roll the balance of the funds over to next year.

Roll Call: (Yes to approve that the balance of \$148,378.65 be rolled over to 2015.)

Mr. Cartabona - No	Mr. Fineran - No
Ms. Denker - Yes	Mrs. Miller - No
Mrs. Demeter - Yes	Mr. Smith - No
Ms. Calabrese - Yes	Mr. Tersigni - Yes
Mr. McGreen - No	Ms. Smolha - Yes
Mr. Bodine - Yes	

Totals: Yes: 6, No: 5

The balance of \$148,378.65 in MCCTFC funds will be rolled over to 2015.

Mr. Cartabona expressed his concern that no open space projects were funded this year; that open space isn't forever. It gets purchased and developed and can affect future opportunities.

Mr. Tersigni said that if open space parcels get purchased and developed into a commercial property and can help taxpayers. Historic preservation is the main focus now; he feels that there is already a lot of open space.

Chairman Fineran will stated that the rules for funding projects were sent out and the Committee had plenty of time to review them.

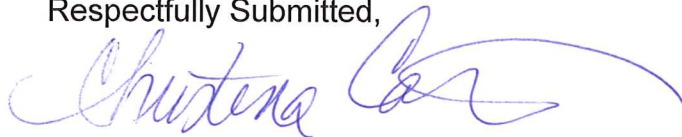
Mr. Tierney noted that several members' terms are expiring on March 25, 2015. Chairman Fineran thanked Desiree Denker, Ellen Demeter, Timothy Bodine, and Todd Tersigni for their participation on the Committee. Recruitment letters will be sent out in January for those membership slots.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 6, 2015.

Ms. Smolha noted that this is the first year, in the ten years she has been on the Committee, that no open space projects were funded. The Committee did not cheat open space.

There being no further business, Ms. Demeter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cartabona to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Christina Cortis', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Christina Cortis
Administrative Clerk