

**Ocean County Natural Lands Trust Fund
Minutes of Advisory Committee Meeting
October 21, 2021**

Present: Alan Avery, David McKeon, Greg Myhre, John Bacchione, and Martin Flemming III

Absent: Ron Dancer, William Fox, Lisa Hodgson and Terry O'Leary

Also present at the meeting were: Commissioner Virginia Haines, Mark Villinger (OCPD), Nicole Leaf (OCPD), Geoffrey Lohmeyer (OCPR), Laura Benson (County Counsel), and Marilyn Stelljes (Public).

1. In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Mr. Avery called the meeting to order at 5:42 p.m.
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Program Update** - The total of preserved acres under the Natural Lands Program is 26,307.33 acres.
 - #579 Scaly Pot – Wilson, Berkeley Twp., 0.49 acres – Mr. Villinger advised this property located on Harbor Inn Road, adjacent to the Park's Department Cultural Site has been closed.
4. **Old Business**
 - **Site inspections – Presented Property Photos via Slideshow**
 - #100 Ridgeway Campground, Manchester Twp., 20.1 acres – Mr. Villinger informed the Committee that staff and Mr. McKeon, along with the Township Business Administrator, and property representative inspected the property. The property has a nice park-like setting and provides direct access to the Toms River. The property will need to be cleaned up to the satisfaction of the County and no tenants can remain on the property for the County to consider closing. Two permanent structures are currently on the property and will need to be removed. Appraisals have been ordered.
 - #603 Jeffreys Creek – Ivy, Berkeley Twp., 0.28 acres – Mr. Villinger advised that staff completed an inspection of the property. It provides rear access to the Nunn property located on West Chelsea from Ivy Court. One appraisal has been ordered.
 - #604 Laurel Harbor Extension, Lacey Twp., 5.42 acres – Staff completed an inspection of the property with Mr. McKeon. The property would provide access to the Laurel Harbor property from Hidden Harbor Place. There is an access easement adjacent to the property to provide access to the creek for two lots not immediately on the water. The access easement is open to the public, but the dock is not. There is an elevated trail on the property as the result of historic dredging of the creek. An appraisal has been received for the property and will be discussed in closed session.

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- #605 Ridgeway Road River Corridor I, Toms River Twp., 1.2 acres – Mr. Villinger advised that staff completed an inspection of the property with Mr. McKeon and the property realtor. The home on the property was not inspected. The property provides access to the Toms River and has an existing paved path along the river bank and around the property. Appraisals have been ordered for the property.
- #606 Ridgeway Road River Corridor II, Toms River Twp., 1.8 acres – Mr. Villinger advised this property was inspected the same time as #605. The property has a gate in the rear that provides access to the Township owned lots immediately behind the property. There is a stocked pond on the property as well for the owner to recreationally fish. Appraisals have been ordered for the property.

5. New Business

New nominations

- #607 Cedar Bridge East, Barnegat Twp., 24.85 acres – Mr. Villinger informed the committee that this property is on Route 72, adjacent to NJDEP property. It is near the County's Cedar Bridge Tavern and other NLT property. Asking price is \$399,000.00. The Committee advised for staff to contact the State to inquire about interest in the property.
- #608 GLP- Reilly, Berkeley Twp., 0.16 acres – Mr. Villinger advised that staff recently performed another round of outreach to the GLP area. This property is located next to the Hanyecz property, currently approved and waiting to close. The property has a single family home on the property and a boat ramp. Asking is \$739,600.00. The Committee authorized staff to order an appraisal for the property.

6. Public Comment: No comments were made by the public

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Bacchione and seconded by Mr. McKeon to move into Closed Session at 6:17 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. McKeon and seconded by Mr. Bacchione to move back into Open Session at 7:01 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Avery stated that in closed session a number of nominations were discussed. The following item will have action taken:

#599 Crosswicks Creek Preserve, Plumsted Township. A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Bacchione and seconded by Mr. Flemming to recommend to the Board of Commissioners in an amount not to exceed \$385,000.00.00 Roll was called. All in favor, motion carried.

Property owner, Marilyn Stelljes thanked the Committee for their time and consideration and inquired about next steps. Mr. Avery advised that staff would contact the Township to inquire about their support of the acquisition.

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With their approval, the property would then go to the Commissioners for their consideration.

#505 Giffords Mill Branch, Little Egg Harbor Township. A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Bacchione and seconded by Mr. McKeon to recommend to the Board of Commissioners in an amount not to exceed \$180,000.00. Roll was called. All in favor, motion carried.

#604 Laurel Harbor, Lacey Township. A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Flemming and seconded by Mr. Bacchione to recommend to the Board of Commissioners in an amount not to exceed \$28,000.00. Roll was called. All in favor, motion carried.

7. **Adjournment** - A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Bacchione and seconded by Mr. McKeon to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.
The next NLTF meeting is November 18, 2021 at 5:30PM

Respectfully submitted,



Nicole Leaf, Environmental Specialist