Washington Township Open Space Advisory Committee Minutes
11 March 2025

Attendees: Leon Lakritz, Andrew Gerber, Vicky Binetti, Deborah McGuigan, Bob Starrantino, Jim McCann, Jimmy Perry

Leon called the meeting to order at 7:06p.m.

Community Forestry Management Plan (CFMP):

- First entered into in 2020, the prior CFMP concluded as of December 31, 2024.
- As a result, the committee discussed pros and cons to the option of moving ahead in pursuit of continuing with a new CFMP.
- As sought previously, NJ state programs including the RFP NJUCF Green Communities Grant (available to apply for in amounts of $5,000 and $10,000) exist as options if another CFMP were pursued.
- The committee will continue to consider its options whether to seek another grant to fund an additional CFMP, keeping in mind any relevant requirements or deadlines for submission.

Community Garden:

- Preliminary plans for the upcoming season were discussed. Outgoing communication will be sent to new and returning gardeners

Greenhouse:

- Materials and seeds for the upcoming planting season were ordered, and planting is now underway. Seedlings will include milkweed, marigolds, and flowers for planting around Washington Lake Park.

Cedar Pond:

- It was noted that the area surrounding Cedar Pond continues to see substantial beaver damage since autumn.

Re-Leaf:

- Thorn Property/Grenloch Lake Area: A tree planting project involving Rotary members for the Thorn Property at Grenloch Lake later this spring was discussed.
- Tree Labeling: A project to label trees along walking paths in Washington Lake Park was discussed, which would involve using the information gathered from the Tree Inventory to identify species of interest along walking paths.

Earth Day/Arbor Day Initiatives

- A proposed calendar for Earth Day and Arbor Day related activities across April and May was shared and discussed

Adjourned at 8:18 p.m.