

## Franklin Township Open Space Committee

**Subject:** Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes  
**Meeting Date:** June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2006 @ 6:30 PM in the Township Building  
**Meeting Attendees:** Phil Geoghegan, Dolores Hughes, Paul Overton,  
Robert Lonsdorf

**Grants:** A question came up regarding timing for submitting proposals to sell an Ag Easement. The following is from the County site:

- State Program has preserved 196 farms in Chester County for a total of 19,064 acres. Application to sell an agricultural conservation easement is due by August 1st.
- Chester County Challenge Grant Program has preserved 17 farms for a total of 1458 acres. Application to sell an agricultural conservation easement is due by August 1st.

**OSC Priorities:** We discussed priorities for the Committee for the coming year or two and decided that:

- We need to put as much effort as needed into assuring we preserve as much Agricultural and Natural land as possible.
  - A strategy for the Keene property is a specific issue.
- We need to get on with trail planning.
  - I will alert the Board that I will ask for funding from the Township in July – even if DCNR funding doesn't materialize.
- We need to develop a well thought out position on establishing a local land trust and prepare a white paper for the Board to consider.
  - Paul will take the lead.
- We should consider taking on additional tasks such as
  - Riparian restoration
  - Invasive species control
  - Updated natural resource ordinances
  - Greenway preservation

**Landowner contact:** We discussed the status of the landowner contacts in an executive session.