

Borough of Kinnelon
Open Space Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes for May 14, 2008

Attendance: Bob Collins, Carol Vreeland, Lucy Meyer, Gene Orcutt, Carol Sventy Matt Dank (MLC) Absent: Jeff Derwin, Invited Guest: None

Public Session

- Public: None Present

Public Session Closed

Meeting Minutes

- January 2008, approved Carol V/ Bob C
- March 2008, approved Gene O / Bob C
- April 2008, approved Gene O / Carol V

New Business

Discussion regarding a Vice Chairperson

- Important since Bob C has meetings etc that prevent him from holding meetings
- Having a vice chairperson would maintain a continuity to our committee and it's goals
- Committee members asked to think of nominees for this position for discussion and election at the next meeting, since not all members are present at this meeting

Recent article in the newspaper regarding phosphates and the state is considering a law that would require municipalities to introduce ordinances to regulate the use of phosphates by homeowners.

Earth Day Booth, Carol V & Carol S - The event was well attended. The committee had several handouts (phosphates, Open Space is a Good Investment, Water saving hint/tips, & copies of Kinnelon's Open Space & Recreation Plan)

Boro Website is up and running, asked Carol (S or V) to coordinate information for the website. We can only talk about the Weber Tract, to raise public awareness. Carol S has pictures, list of environmental links, and pdf of the Open Space & Recreation Plan. Carol S would also like to talk to Diane Nelson about putting some of her disc on the website; this is a CD about how Pyramid Mtn was saved and has significant historical value.

Position of Secretary for the Open Space Advisory Committee - position offered to Carol S. but after much back & forth Carol S decided to continue as Secretary pro bono for the rest of this year and not give up her seat on the committee. The reason being that the committee was already down two members, HS Student & Dick Larson's positions and that this was a critical time for the committee. A salary will be established in the future for this position.

Committee Report: OS fund grows approx 400,000 / year give or take, currently in excess of 600,000/ these funds are subject to a number of things, debt servicing (bonds), active recreation, artificial turf etc. Referendum for turf was voted down by the public. Another item that could be paid for with OS Trust fund dollars is the renovation of the Museum (L'Ecole)

Morris Land Conservancy Report: Matt Dank

- Application has not been received yet, Morris County hasn't made them available yet.
- Previous two appraisals will have to be revised
- Hopes to have a draft of the application for our next meeting
- June is the meeting where the application will be put to a vote by the council, we, as a committee will need to go to both the work session and to the next council meeting
- Green Acres funding should be known by the next meeting – another 300,000 – good for Weber
- Lucy – adamant that the application be accurate and supply attachments to any/all statements made within the application – particularly concerned about the ranking – forms for reporting wildlife are on the NJDEP website.
- The MLC may not have all the answers, which is why he likes to get the citizens committees he works with involved in the process. Thinks that the MLC would be a more rounded organization if they had a scientist on staff as well.
- Met with the Weber's, foreclosure moving along, expects to hear from their attorney and a real estate expert to come up with an offer for the property. They contacted Matt and asked for the 8283 form – Charitable Donation/Contribution form, so they may be looking for a tax write off. The Weber's are well aware of the fact that the application is dependent upon a contract with the landowner.
- Dam status – Weber's attorney told him that it is being repaired, by Roseland Properties. Bob C: It is our understanding that Roseland Properties was either cited or sued by the state, so Roseland's solution was to restore it to its original state, rather than breach it, which is what we would prefer. We don't know if the state asked them to do this, Lucy suggested calling the state and asking them what's up with this particular dam. If the dam becomes that much of an issue, the Boro is not willing to take on this liability. Lucy remembers that this area was filled with fireplaces and picnic areas back in the 1930's. There is a new person on board at the MLC that is helping with all the grant work so this should work to everyone's advantage.

Miscellaneous:

- Carol S. asked Matt Dank (MLC) to email a clean copy of the property prioritizations to her so that we could have a clean copy for the record.
- In reviewing the grant application, would it be a good idea for our committee to meet outside of the regularly scheduled meeting, such as on a Saturday? This will be determined at the next meeting, but overall

consensus is that it would be a good idea, we just need publish a notice (i.e.: sunshine notice).

- Who will take responsibility for the Weber Tract? MLC or Morris County Park? Morris County has indicated that their resources are stretched; stewardship could be addressed at a later point in time.
- Lucy mentioned another commission involved with water supply (PMUA), Matt had mentioned them as a possible funding partner, they own Clyde Potts Reservoir, supply water to Morris County, smack in the middle of the county, county put them on the commission, and they get a certain portion of the grant. Suggested that Butler form a partnership with Clyde Potts Reservoir in order to get some of the money to preserve Butler's water since they have a problem with not enough land around the Butler Reservoir and the eutrophication situation.
- Carol then read Jeff Derwin's email and raised his concerns about the foreclosure on the Weber Tract, the county application and if MLC & Bob would present to the Morris County Trust.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:03pm, Gene Orcutt / Carol Sventy
Meeting minutes submitted by Carol Sventy