

**Borough of Kinnelon
Open Space Public Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes for January 21, 2009**

Attendance: Bob Collins, Jeff Derwin, Carol Vreeland, Carol Sventy. Also present were Mayor Sisco and Matt Dank from the Land Conservancy of New Jersey. Absent: Lucy Meyer and Gene Orcutt

- Bob C. apologized for our meeting not taking place on the regularly scheduled January 13; the public notice didn't get into the paper in time. Bob made note of the fact that our meetings for 2009 would be every other month, starting with January and that our next meeting would be held on March 11, 2009.

Election of Committee Chairperson & Vice Chairperson

- As was previously discussed, this committee is really a citizens committee, and both Mayor Sisco & Bob agree, that the community would be better served if it remained a citizen's committee. Bob then thanked the committee for their help and support in the past and asked for somebody else to assume this role going forward.
- Bob then called for a nomination for Chairperson. Jeff Derwin nominated Carol Sventy and Carol Vreeland nominated Jeff Derwin. Jeff then respectfully declined. She felt that since Jeff had helped so much with the Weber Tract Citizens Group that he was a good candidate. Carol Vreeland asked that if Carol Sventy was already secretary, then she felt that it was an awful lot of responsibility for one person to handle. After some discussion, Bob said there were no regulations covering this and that since our meetings were every other month, and events seemed to be slowing down, that Carol S. could continue typing the minutes and if it became too much then it could be readdressed at a future meeting. Bob then seconded the nomination of Carol Sventy for Chairperson, Role call: Bob Collins, Jeff Derwin, Carol Sventy, and Carol Vreeland. All in favor: Unanimous. All opposed: None. Chairperson: Carol Sventy
- Bob then called for a nomination for Vice-Chairperson: Carol Sventy nominated Jeff Derwin and cited his skills from working with him on the 34-acres committee. Bob nominated Carol Vreeland and cited her passion and dedication to the committee. Carol Vreeland said that since the committee was a small committee already, and if one person was doing everything, that she was afraid that the committee would lose its meaning. Bob then asked both Carol V. & Jeff D. what they wanted to do - ultimately, Carol V. declined. Bob then seconded the motion for Jeff Derwin as Vice-Chairperson, Role call: Bob Collins, Jeff Derwin, Carol Sventy, and Carol Vreeland. All in favor: Unanimous. All opposed: None. Vice Chairperson: Jeff Derwin

Public Session

- Public: none Present - Public Session Closed

Approval of Meeting Minutes - November 11, 2008 (Bob Collins/Carol Vreeland) & December 2008 (Bob Collins/Jeff Derwin) minutes were approved with changes.

Committee Report: Bob Collins

- Weber Tract - Property still recorded in Roseland's name. Trying to get all parties together to finalize a contract. Issue still outstanding is the treatment of the Dam and its associated liability. Borough attorney is trying to set up an appointment with the Webers' attorney and the Borough, in order to facilitate getting a final contract. The Borough can't take on a dam, the funding simply isn't there. Carol V. asked who was responsible for following up & keeping after people, Bob said it would be himself and the Mayor at this point. The funding is in place, which is incentive for the Webers' to move forward as quickly as possible. Bob asked Matt if the funding could ever expire, Matt said that after a two year period, the funding could go away. Jeff asked what the approximate cost of remediating the dam would be. Bob replied that Matt Dank suggested getting an engineers report, then setting up an escrow fund that would ensure remediation could take place in a timely basis, and then secure an independent report to be reviewed by the Borough engineer and finally make sure that this is compliant with NJDEP. Carol V. wondered if a compromise between the parties and the borough regarding the remediation could be achieved. Bob said that the Borough absolutely could not take on the remediation of the dam. Bob; can't advocate or suggest that we deplete the OS fund; it is set up for this and subsequent acquisitions. Jeff asked if there was any other way that the dam

could be dealt with, according to the state that is. Originally the DEP ordered Roseland to return the dam to its original condition, and now every one is in agreement that this is not the way this dam should be treated. This is why an engineer is needed to properly assess the situation.

- Carol V. voiced concern over COAH requirements. Bob said that the Borough Planning board and the Mayor & council met with the Highlands Commission recently. During the course of the meeting, Bob asked the question: how do you develop property in an area that is preserved? Apparently there is a memorandum of agreement between COAH and the Highlands Commission that deals with some of the COAH requirements in the preservation area. Kinnelon is applying for a grant to comply with the Highlands Master Plan and this will protect us from COAH so that we won't be at risk.
- Carol V. also reported that there have been hunters and other activity on the Weber Tract again. Bob said that since it is still private property, and has been posted as such. Carol V. said that the signs have helped. There is not much the police can do at this point.

Review List Property Prioritizations

- Mayor Sisco has received calls regarding various parcels within the Borough that are not contiguous to Open Space. One is a commercial piece that abuts Pathmark. Other calls are from builders saying they can't build on a parcel due to the Highlands Act, and ask if the Borough wants to purchase it for Open Space. This is why we have the list of Property Prioritizations, and criteria for determining parcels to be preserved. Bob asked that when we meet in March that we review this list thoroughly and perhaps consider new parcels. Bob will bring various parcels to the committee's attention as soon as he becomes aware of them.

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 11, 2009, 7:00pm, Kinnelon Borough Hall

Adjournment: Carol Vreeland / Jeff Derwin

Minutes approved: Bob Collins / Carol Vreeland
Respectfully Submitted by Carol Sventy