

**Kinnelon Open Space Public Advisory Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes for September 9, 2009**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

Meeting began approximately 7:00 pm at the Kinnelon Municipal Building. Present were Bob Collins, Jeff Derwin, Amanda Hagl, Mary Fisher, Karimah Munem, Gene Orcutt, Carol Sventy and Carol Vreeland. Absent: Lucy Meyer Invited Guest: Matt Dank (Land Conservancy of New Jersey)

Carol Sventy read the Sunshine Provision.

**HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC:**

No Public in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Minutes for May 13, 2009 – At the September 9, 2009 meeting, these minutes were approved with changes by a motion from Bob Collins, seconded by Gene Orcutt  
Minutes for July 8, 2009 – no quorum, therefore minutes will be considered a draft only.

**NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Bob Collins swore in new committee members Amanda Hagl, Karimah Munem and Mary Fisher

**COMMITTEE REPORT: Bob Collins**

- New Open Space map being worked on by the Land Conservancy of New Jersey. Showed current OS map to new members explaining where 1200 acres in Smoke Rise was, and where 34 Acres and Weber Tract were located. Explained that where there are contiguous undeveloped parcels of property, then preservation efforts seem to be of a greater interest.
- Recent news regarding COAH (Council on Affordable Housing). A NJ Municipality had recently filled its COAH requirement and zoned other land for business. Judge ruled that the Municipality couldn't zone out affordable housing for business. Carol V. asked how COAH became so powerful; Bob answered that there is a perception within the State of New Jersey under the Mount Laurel decision to move forward with affordable housing.
- Kinnelon is 99% within the preservation area. In order to build, one must obtain an exemption from the Highlands. Schools are exempt from this process, but public buildings are not. Kinnelon has filed an exemption for the Boonton Avenue Firehouse as well as for the DPW (Dept. of Public Works) building in order to expand these facilities
- PSE&G has asked for access through the 30 acres of the Kohler Property within Kinnelon in order to install 4 towers that are part of the upgrade of the power grid. Three of these towers are in Kinnelon. PSE&G will pay Kinnelon for the destruction of land, and Kinnelon will use this to create a parking area and trail head to the Kohler property which will ultimately benefit the public in giving them access to this area.

**MOVE TO CLOSED SESSION**

A motion from Carol Vreeland to move to closed session was seconded by Gene Orcutt.

**MOVE OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

A motion from Gene Orcutt to move out of closed session was seconded by Carol Vreeland.

**Land Conservancy of New Jersey Report: Matt Dank**

- A draft of the Kinnelon Open Space map should be ready for our next meeting

- Impressed upon the committee the importance of getting people to vote yes on the upcoming referendum on the Garden State Preservation fund for \$400 million.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Carol Sventy had spoken to Lucy Meyer regarding her concerns over small pieces of property along the fault line in Kinnelon. Lucy had said that she had spoken with Dick Seabury about these parcels and didn't know where this project was at the moment. Bob Collins said that he would see Dick Seabury the following week and he would talk to him about it then.
- Carol Sventy said that numerous people had approached her asking about the possibility of a community garden. The committee all felt that this would be a good use of land here in Kinnelon, but finding a parcel would be difficult. L'Ecole was considered, but was thought to be too small. Carol Vreeland mentioned the possibility of planting native plants or a heritage garden at L'Ecole, which would be more in keeping with the building. The L'Ecole building itself is in dire need of repair. The Council has been wrestling with how to fund this. Amanda Hagl said that there is a Habitat for Humanity club at the High School that would really love to have a building in Kinnelon to work on. Karimah Munem said that if we needed volunteers that she could talk to a group she works with through the HS called Social Outreach that might be willing to help with the community garden project.

At approximately 8:15pm a motion from Amanda Hagl to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Karimah Munem

Minutes approved: Gene Orcutt / Bob Collins  
Respectfully submitted by Carol Sventy