

BOROUGH OF KINNELON
OPEN SPACE PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes for March 9, 2011

The OSPAC Meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm on March 9, 2011. Carol S. read the Sunshine Provision:
This meeting is held pursuant to the New Jersey Open Public Meeting act. Adequate notice of this meeting was advertised in the January 2, 2011 edition of the Trends and was provided to the Star Ledger, Daily Record and North Jersey Herald News on January 2, 2011. Adequate notice of this meeting was also posted on the municipal building bulletin board, filed with the Borough clerk and provided to those persons or entities requesting notification.

Roll Call/In Attendance: Steve Cobell, Amanda Hagl, Mary Fisher, Karimah Munem, Gene Orcutt, Carol Sventy, Carol Vreeland & Glenn Sisco.
Absent: Lucy Meyer

Welcome new OSPAC committee member – Glenn Sisco

Old Business

- Review / Approve meeting minutes for January 12, 2010 Approved by Carol Vreeland & seconded by Steve Cobell All in favor – None opposed

Council Committee Report – Steve Cobell

- Land Conservancy 2011 contract was approved at the last council meeting and waiting for the appraisal for the Boonton Avenue property. Steve C. brought back to the council committee that the Open Space Committee would like to work with the Recreation Committee to see where they could benefit one another. Steve had looked into some properties that the Borough has tax title liens on. There are about 42-45 properties that can be foreclosed on. He is looking into the cost and advantages/disadvantages of the properties to see if they can be used for Open Space, Community Garden, Dog Park or recreational use.

Hearing from the Public:

- Jim Freda came to speak about his interest in any recreation fields that the Open Space committee may be looking to acquire. The recreation committee would like to look into the cost of turf for the fields behind the DPW. With the lack of fields available the ones we have are being used way too much and they don't have time to be maintained in between seasons.
He is looking for rectangular fields that can be used for multiple sports. The fields are used by rec baseball, rec softball, rec lacrosse, high school lacrosse & high school softball.
The soccer/lacrosse fields at KRP can only be used when there are no baseball/softball games in use as it's a shared field.
- Jim would like the Open Space committee to keep their eyes open for the property next to the church on Boonton Ave. That would be a perfect piece of property for recreational use.
- Gene O. wanted to know if the school sports share the cost of maintaining the borough fields.
- Carol S. asked about the recreational budget. She wanted to know if the budget is mainly created from the fees collected. There was no maintenance (fertilizing, seeding, filling of holes) done to the fields last year because there was no money in the budget.
- The Open Space committee wants to come up with a plan to prioritize where the funds from Open Space gets spent. Carol V. spoke about active vs. passive recreation. If there is a need for funding for active recreation you can get municipal bonds for them.
- Jim suggested that the Open Space committee talk with the Environmental committee about their thoughts moving forward regarding purchasing turf vs. purchasing more property. The way turf is installed now it is very safe. The cost of a turf football field is about \$650M - \$700M.
- Galena Adair came from the KCG to say that the committee is working on their business plan. She was asking about the property on Boonton Ave & Highlands Drive (6 acres) and the small parcel on Boonton Ave. & Twin Lakes Drive. The Council has approved the appraisal of the 2 properties.
- The email list for the KCG is growing and there is a lot of interest in the KCG.
- Carol S. spoke about an article in the Wayne magazine on Laurel Wood. Its 30 acres that was donated to the town that has been turned into a Community Garden. A lot of scouts have used this location for different projects.
- There are private & public grants out there to start up the KCG. They are looking into them.
- Galena reminded the committee again that West Milford has a farmer's market that brings in 700-1100 people in the summer months.
- Carol S. suggested in their plan they have information on how it's going to be designed and how it's going to be maintained. How they plan to keep the deer out.

Land Conservancy of NJ Report – Linda Glosinski

- Weber tract summary – all encroachments have been resolved. Have received a revised survey. Meeting on 3/10/11 with the Morris County Parks commission, Borough Attorney, & the Mayor to wrap of the final conveyance between the park commission & the Borough after they close. Looking to close end of March/early April.
- They were awarded appraisals on the 2 properties on Boonton Avenue. A pre-appraisal meeting with Green Acres & Goldberg needs to be set up. It takes about 3 - 4 week turnaround time.
- Carol S. had the new maps that the Land Conservancy had sent over with the 2 properties on Boonton Avenue highlighted.
- Morris County Preservation Trust changed their deadline dates up. New application deadline is now June 24th and the new appraisal deadline in now July 27th.
- Carol V. asked if the community gardens can get in on these applications. Yes, they have started the process through the pre appraisal questionnaire that was submitted to Green Acres.
- Carol V. suggested that the KCG determine how many garden plots they will be able to fit on these pieces of property to determine if it is worth considering. This information should be in their business plan.
- Motion to move into closed session was made by Carol V. and seconded by Gene O.
- Motion to move out of closed session was made by Glenn Sisco and seconded by Carol V.

Old Business

- Need to determine what properties the committee would like to consider meeting the deadlines. Carol V. suggested a piece of property across from Kinnelon Mall. (Prol property). It's a commercial property.
- Carol V. also suggested a small piece of property on Rt. 23 (2 acres) connects to the Weber Tract. It's part of a greenway. There is not much to build on and the seller is asking a lot of money for it.
- The Wheeler property located off of Brook Valley Road, part of it is in Montville and a part is in Kinnelon. The house & lake in is Montville. It used to be a Boy Scout camp. Linda is going to look into it.
- Amanda would like to see something acquired like the Wheeler property because it has a lake that you don't have to be part of a club or lake community to use. (Fayson Lake, Smoke Rise) - there is no land around it to be used for recreational purposes.
- Glenn said that they tried to make an agreement with Lake Rickabear years ago (10-12 yrs.) to utilize their lakes and fields but they did not want to have anything to do with it. We may want to contact them again and ask. Carol V. said that she had gone to a picnic there last summer and she spoke with a woman who said that they may want to open it up for public use.
- Carol S. remembered a piece of property (3 Saw Mill Rd) that Tom Kline had suggested that had a lake and lots of land on top of a mountain. Looking to bring industry to Kinnelon. Maybe make recreation our industry.
- Glenn would like to see the church on Boonton Ave. sell us back the piece of property located next to our recreation fields so that we can create more rec fields for the town.
- Amanda suggested the parcel on South Glen Road. Good piece for community garden and would provide a continuous greenway and trail head.
- Carol V. spoke about an article in the Trends regarding L'Ecole museum and that said that they are applying for historical designation. Can the open space funding go to L'Ecole to help restore the museum?
- The open space committee needs to decide by April on the properties that they wish to apply for grants.

New Business

- Kinnelon Conserves is hosting Earth day on April 9, 2011. They asked if the open space committee is interested in having a table. What would we present at the table? Unless we have the new updated open space map to show all open space that is available. Linda isn't sure if they could have an updated done by that date. The Open Space committee is not going to have a table this year.
- Carol S. spoke with Barbara about updating the maps. A basic update would be \$10,000 and a complete would be \$14,000 – half would be paid by an ANJEC grant and the balance paid by the open space fund. Linda seems to think that grant for this is due by March 31st. When speaking to the Mayor regarding this he did not think the council would want to spend this kind of money on this at this time. Pros: 1.) Land Conservancy would be doing the work, 2.) the complete plan would include a trails inventory, 3) Green acres recommends that you update your open space plans every 6 years which would increase levels of state funding for the borough, 4.) it's also a component for sustainable New Jersey. We would need a resolution passed by the Council by March 31st. Linda said it does tie into the funding for the trails component. Carol S. will give Bob a pro's & con's list to be brought up at the next workshop meeting.
- Amanda spoke about a sustainable garden project that she is working on at the Stony Brook School in their courtyard. She is going to be putting together a charity night at either Outback or Chili's where the proceeds of that night go to funding the garden. She has been working with Carol V. on this project. If all goes well the town would get credit towards the sustainable New Jersey.

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 13,, 2011 at 7:00 pm

Adjournment: at 8:45, a motion from Carol Vreeland to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Glenn Sisco

At the April 13, 2011 OSPAC Meeting, the meeting minutes for March 9, 2010 were approved by a motion made by Carol Vreeland & seconded by Karimah Munem. All in favor – None opposed