

BOROUGH OF KINNELON
OPEN SPACE PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes for May 11, 2011

The OSPAC Meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm on May 11, 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: Amanda Hagl, Mary Fisher, Gene Orcutt, Glenn Sisco, Carol Sventy & Carol Vreeland. Absent: Steve Cobell, Karimah Munem & Lucy Meyer

Hearing from the Public:

- Mayor Collins stated that a lot of the surrounding municipalities are having to reduced their Open Space tax. For the Kinnelon Borough prior to the Weber Tract closing we should have close to 1.2 million in the trust account and the Boro is contributing \$300,000 to \$400,000 towards this acquisition.
- The Borough applied for a Green Acres Planning Incentive Grant (PIG) grant but due to the low funds at the State level we were not approved for the grant
- Jim Freda wanted to ask if the recreation department could get funding from the open space fund for the following:
 - To repair the surface of the tennis courts at the Boonton Avenue recreation facility. The cost is approximately \$4,000 - \$5,000.
 - Replace the roller hockey rink at the Municipal field with a recreation field. (See details below) Would like to request approximately \$15,000.00 Jim said that the recreation dept. is looking into having dirt donated.

Old Business:

Council Committee Report – Steve Cobell (spoke with Carol S.)

- He is working on the list of property foreclosures.
- Historic Committee – He spoke with Tom Kline and they applied for a historic grant but is not sure of the outcome of the grant at this time.

Land Conservancy of NJ Report – Linda Glosinski (emailed to Carol S.)

- Weber Tract – Green Acres is reviewing the final survey and should have by May 10th. Land Conservancy has prepared a press release with quotes from Mayor Collins, David Epstein from the Land Conservancy, Morris County Open Space Trust and the Morris County Park Commission. Will be released upon closing. Waiting to hear from Attorney regarding closing date.
- Boonton Ave property (owned by Totowa Construction) - Norman Goldberg, the appraiser is waiting on the wetlands and soil perc data from their engineers. Once information is received the draft appraisal will be finalized.

Old Business:

- New High School Committee Members – Carol S. emailed Dr. Merckling regarding the upcoming open positions on the OSPAC. Looking for (1) Sophomore and (1) Junior preferably to replace vacancies left by Mary Fisher and Karimah Munem when they graduate and leave for college in September 2011. Qualities the OSPAC are looking for: reliability, responsibility, willingness to participate at council meetings and to take part in Earth Day and Arts & Crafts festival. As well

as attend monthly committee meetings. A brief 250 word essay should be submitted to the Borough Clerk's office.

- Review / Approve meeting minutes for April 13, 2011- On a motion made by Carol Vreeland & seconded by Mary Fisher, the minutes were approved with changes. All in favor – None opposed
 - Changes to the April 2011 minutes: under Old Business first bulleted item - Amanda Hagl had a table for the Stonybrook garden at the Earth Day fair with help from members of the Social Outreach Club. She is also having a fundraiser at Applebee's on Friday, April 29th to help raise funds for the garden at the Stonybrook School.

New Business:

- Prioritization list for the properties and/or projects:
 - Steve Cobell couldn't be present at this meeting and gave his comments to Carol S. stating that his 1st priority would be L'Ecole Museum, 2nd Recreation fields/Tennis courts, 3rd Trails & kiosks.

Additionally, the committee discussed and prioritized the following properties:

1. L'Ecole Museum

- a. Porch is in need of repair, kitchen needs to be remodeled. Whole museum needs to be re-painted.
- b. They have applied for grants but the status and purpose is not known. Carol S. & Carol V. are going to make calls for more information. Carol V. would like the Open Space committee to help with any costs, within reason, that the Historical committee may need. This is the only historic building in town.
- c. Discussed the need to find out what L'Ecole's priorities are and what needs to be done. Make a list of the things that need to be done and plan for the most important items to be fixed over the next couple of years. Different groups use the museum to gather for their meetings.
- d. Amanda H. feels that the Historical committee hasn't approached the Open Space committee for any funding and since this is one of the only historic sites in town we should try and help with its preservation.

2. Recreational Fields

- a. Kinnelon Recreation Park – Boonton Avenue:
 - i. There is a grass slope behind the bleachers that could use a retaining wall to stop people from falling down on sloped area.
 - ii. Since this facility is relatively new, it was felt that there wasn't much need for improvement at this time.
- b. Boonton Ave Ball Fields – Boonton Avenue:
 - i. Tennis courts are in need of repair. There are big cracks throughout the courts. The recreation committee provided a quote of \$4,000 – \$5,000.00 to fix the courts.
 - ii. Baseball fields are in need of clay.
 1. The Open Space Committee agreed to the improvements to the tennis courts up to \$5,000.00. All in favor, none opposed.
- c. Municipal Fields – 130 Kinnelon Road
 - i. Removal of the roller hockey rink – this would provide another recreation field. The Rec. Dept proposed the removal of the rink by a friend of Councilman Andy SanFilippo's, at no charge to the Borough, their payment would be in the recycling of the material removed. The Recreation committee would like to ask the OSPAC for \$15,000.00 from the OS Trust for soil and seed. If the costs exceed \$17,500.00, then the project would have to go out for bid.

- ii. The OSPAC would like to see a list of the Recreation Committee's priority needs. The Open Space Committee would also like to see actual estimates before making any decision.

3. Trails & Kiosks

- a. Suggested that this project be put on hold until the Open Space Plan has been updated since part of the update is a trails inventory. Then we would know how many trails we have and how many kiosks we would need.
- b. These are great projects for the Girls/Boy Scouts.
- c. Carol V. had pictures from the newspaper of kiosks that were put up last year in West Milford. The kiosks cost \$1,700.00 each and West Milford used funds from their Open Space as well as a grant that they got from ANJEC.

4. Kinnelon Community Garden (KCG) -

- a. Currently waiting for appraisal on the property located at Boonton Ave. & Highlands Dr. Carol S. has seen KCG's business plan and felt they were off to a good start. She reminded KCG that the Open Space funds are not going to be able to fund the entire KCG project and that they would have to find additional partners/funding in order to purchase this or any parcel for the KCG to use.
- b. Glenn S. asked what the concept of the KCG would be, concerned that if the garden is not attended to it will look like the overgrown gardens in Denville.
- c. Carol V. asked if they know how many plots that will be realized on this property. Due to the C1 waterway going through the property there isn't much room. She is also concerned about selling produce grown in the garden. She felt it should be donated to organizations (like Ample Harvest) and not sold for a profit. Unless profits gained are used toward maintaining the garden.

5. The Smithy Shop – Boonton Avenue

- a. Located on wetlands and the committee felt that this was not a worthy project.
- To Summarize - The committee agreed to the following prioritization of Borough facility projects:
 - 1. L'Ecole Museum
 - 2. Boonton Ave. Tennis Courts
 - 3. Municipal Fields
 - 4. Trails & Kiosks
 - 5. Kinnelon Community Garden

Additional New Business discussed:

- Suggestion was made to move the meeting times for the Open Space meetings to 7:30 pm start time instead of 7:00 pm. A public announcement needs to be placed in all the newspapers to notify the public of this new time. Carol S. will speak with Beth/Karen in the clerk's office to make this change.

Next meeting: Wednesday, June 8, 2011 at 7:30 pm - Please note the new meeting time.

Motion to Adjourn: at 8:54, a motion from Glenn Sisco to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Carol Vreeland. All in favor.

At the June 8, 2011 OSPAC Meeting, the meeting minutes for May 11, 2011 were approved by a motion made by Carol Vreeland & seconded by Glenn Sisco. Steve Cobell Abstained, all other committee members in favor, none opposed.