

**BOROUGH OF KINNELON
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
May 8, 2013**

Meeting Called to Order 7:30pm

Tom Kline, read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement

This meeting is held pursuant to the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Act. Adequate notice of this meeting was advertised in the January 2, 2013 edition of the Trends and was provided to the Star Ledger, Daily Record and North Jersey Herald News on January 2, 2013. 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.

Present: Council Liaison: Carol Sventy, Tom Kline, Gene Orcutt, Steven Pileggi, Vanessa Smalley, Doug Lawrence, Michael Propopulas

- Tom welcomed Michael to his first official meeting.
- Tom inquired with Carol Sventy how many members the Open Space Advisory Committee should have, she advised that it would be 9, so one more adult, non-student member would be needed. She reminded Tom of an email she sent to him about an interested person, the nurse on the Board of Health, who would like to join the Committee.

Hearing from the Public

- None

Review / approve meeting minutes. Tom Kline requested to table the minutes for January 9, 2013, March 13, 2013 and April 13, 2013, at this time.

Council Report – Carol Sventy

- Anna Marie, Carol was unsure of her name, the new part time secretary in the Clerk's office expressed interest in being the recording secretary for the Open Space Advisory Committee. Carol can move forward at the workshop meeting for the Mayor and Council. Tom asked if we needed a motion for same for the appointment of the recording secretary. Gene motioned, Vanessa seconded the motion. All in favor. Carol will make the motion tomorrow night.
- Carol reviewed the discussions that were being had about the turf fields and open space funds. Turf field at the High School or the practice field. They would like to move forward quickly, but Carol does feel that they should have all the figures and amounts it would take to put in a turf field and how much of the open space funds it would use, without having the open space come to a halt. It is still up in the air, without having all the facts, \$400,000.00 to install, at cost from a council member, anything over \$17,500.00 has to go out to bid.

Stand 4 in favor 2 against. \$50,000.00 for Phase 1 for Historical Restoration that is spoken for already. As the Phases continue, more money will be needed. Tom does not want to weigh in too heavily on either side.

- Tom explained that the Open Space Funds, was developed for Open Space, Historical and Recreation. At the same meeting of that discussion, the Freeholders were here discussing their annual budget and they are concerned because the County Open Space Trust Fund has been shrinking and balance is growing. Less and less towns are applying and they wanted to know how the funds be best utilized going forward. Tom suggested, recreation field development, which is not one of the permitted uses for the funds, so that towns like us can apply for matching grants and not wipe out the Open Space Trust Fund. Tom also would want a survey from the population in Kinnelon, if they are in favor of having a turf field installed. Gene mentioned that 2 times before this has been brought up. School board and general election. The school board would have to go to referendum to vote. Carol asked for more information and was provided a picture of the field, she was not sure if that was just installation and drainage systems, design and costs to maintain the field. She inquired what other school districts' are doing to clean and maintain the turf fields. She was advised by one town that they hire outside sources to clean twice a year. Every 6 to 7 years have to replace the carpet and then eventually replaced completely. Vanessa gave her opinion about using the funds for turf, she was not in favor. Steven advised that he played soccer and lacrosse. Playing on our field was not pleasing, but the cost for maintaining turf fields is quite high. Carol advised that the Board of Educations, in other towns get federal funding and state funding, we get no federal funding and 3% state funding and therefore there is no money left over for recreation. Michael does not feel that it is not a good idea to use the Open Space Trust Fund, at the current prices.
- Tom advised the committee of an article about a group who is trying to limit recreation development around Split Rock Reservoir. Jersey City has about 600 acres around Split Rock Reservoir, the locals wanted to preserve it as open space, so the State purchased a conservation easement around the whole thing and then the locals were happy, but then wanted everyone to be able to go hiking and boating. Tom wanted to let everyone know, due to the fact that it is on our border.
- Carol excused herself to attend the Board of Health meeting.
- Land Conservancy of NJ Report – Linda Glosinski

Tom discussed his interest in setting up trails in the Kinnelon area. He inquired if Linda could generate a map south of route 23 and East of Greenpond, West of 287 and North of Rockaway Valley Road. Encumbrancing Split Rock and Pyramid Mountain. Linda advised there is a map that was done for the Borough and another one done by the New York/New Jersey Trail Conference, for the all the preserved land. All on

topo maps. The cost of them are \$9.99 for one. Linda can bring one from her office and can provide one for the committee. Tom would like to point out the adjoining trails to Kinnelon for residents, not just providing trails in Kinnelon.

Current balance is \$1.2 million. Sue Seabold is drawing up a new project agreement and allotted for 3 years. Sue also brought up that the last agreement expired in March 2012 and if you don't use it you will lose it. Linda advised that if we are not actively looking for purchases, you can lose funds being given. Planning Incentive, funds were \$727,000.00, they would disperse \$500,000 and annual grants from the county and other sources of funding, so that all the money would not be used from the Open Space Funds.

There has been no communication as of late with Totowa construction. She was not sure where it stands for the property across the street from the new Firehouse. The borough is trying negotiate the contract. She was unsure if the Boonton

Linda advised that we have a lot of preserved land and with the weather getting nice to get out there and to maximize the trail grants and opportunities. Start looking into more properties and getting the town council on board to actively look for properties.

L'Ecole Restoration Status – Tom Kline

- Tom explained about the 1 Phase Project of the Preservation Plan for the L'Ecole Museum and the maintenance for the museum. He explained about the 80% grant application from the County and the 20% from the Open Space Trust Fund for the entire porch issue and some other minor issues. They set up a site visit for next Tuesday or Wednesday. The Historical committee will meet with them and go over the grant application.

- Old Business:

None at this time, except that we are still looking for a recording secretary and also that he spoke with Keith Wiedemann and advised him if an opening presented itself in the summer, then they could appoint him to the Open Space Committee.

New Business: With the weather getting nicer and Tom would like to set up a convenient time and date to check out the trails. May 21st, 22nd or 23rd look good for

Linda Glosinski, Tom suggested the 22nd or 29th. Vanessa advised that there was a band concert on the 22nd and Thursday the 23rd she has work. Tom advised they should meet at 6:00 at Borough Hall, to look at Buck Mountain and Rock Pear Mountain, boro owned 180 acres. We could look at Weber Tract, about 160 acres, also boro owned and some continuity with Silas Park. Tom asked Gene about a parcel from Silas that comes out onto North Gate Road and would like to find out about the accessibility. Gene advised that he would like to get something going at The Weber Tract to make sure that it is being used correctly. Tom would like to have a copy of the survey that was performed for the Weber Tract acquisition. Linda will make attempts to get updated maps. Tom pointed out that it would be feasible to look into Bear Mountain Tract. Linda suggested that that be the focus for the second site visit.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, **June 12, 2013 - 7:30pm**, 2nd Floor Borough Hall

A motion was made by Gene Orcutt to go into closed session and seconded by Vanessa, to discuss land acquisitions and also noted that a workshop will meet on May 23rd to check out the Weber Tract trails.

Adjournment - On a motion from Michael Propopulas seconded by Steven Pileggi, the OSCA meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

At the February 12, 2014 meeting on motion from Glenn Sisco and seconded by Doug Lawrence, the minutes for the May 8, 2013 meeting were approved-all in favor, none opposed.