

**MENDHAM BOROUGH OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES 7/10/2014**

**Meeting Location: Phoenix House, 2 West Main Street, Mendham, NJ**

- 1. Meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Connolly, at 7:10 PM.**
- 2. Adequate Notice Statement: Notice of this meeting was published in the Observer Tribune and the Daily Record in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act and was posted on the Phoenix House bulletin board.**
- 3. Roll Call:**
  - George Connolly, Chair, Present**
  - William DeBuvitz, Vice Chair, Present**
  - David Sprandel, Secretary, Present**
  - Charles Topping, Present**
  - John Andrus, Council Representative, Present**
  - Peter Barry, Present**
  - Adam Slutsky, Absent**

**Alternates: None**

**Guest: Eric Arena**

- 4. Mr. Topping moved, Mr. Andrus seconded and the minutes for the meeting of May 8, 2014 were unanimously approved.**
- 5. Public Comment – None.**
- 6. Borough Council Update – A temporary Borough Administrator has been hired to replace Ellen Sandman and the search for a new administrator is active. We are also looking to find a new Tax Collector.**
- 7. Financial Report – The current balance is \$726,608. No transactions, other than interest, YTD.**
- 8. Old Business**
  - a. Scott Farm – Mr. Connolly reports that the parcel of land in Mendham Borough is not, currently, on the list of properties to be preserved by the county but it is expected it will be added to the list at the end of the year. Mr. Barry asked what our obligation might be to maintain the existing buildings if we made an outright purchase of the property? Mr. Connolly will pursue inquiries of the listing realtor and the owners as to their interest in selling the development rights to the 10.5 acre parcel as well as pursuing their knowledge, if any, of the**

degree to which the parcel could potentially be developed. Given the asking price, \$495,000, they, perhaps, feel the land has potential sub-division value since its attraction as a piece of agricultural land would seem to be less. He will report his findings to Mr. Andrus who will pursue the issue with the Borough Council.

- b. Cromwell Farm – There was some discussion about the farm.
- c. Phoenix House Preservation Grant – Mr. Connolly reports that a grant of \$36,000 has been approved by the County Historic Preservation Committee to detail the repairs required for the Phoenix House.
- d. Committee Membership – Still looking for volunteers. Our guest, Eric Arena, says he would be interested in participating.

**9. New Business –**

- a. Tranquility Garden - Parking. Parking on Orchard St. is now limited to the residents of Orchard St., so, the question is where are visitors to Tranquility Garden expected to park? Mr. Andrus will bring the issue to the Borough Council.

**10. Other Business – None.**

**11. Adjournment – Mr. Sprandel moved, Mr. DeBuvitz seconded and all approved we adjourn at 8:37 PM.**

- a. The next regular meeting is scheduled for 9/11/2014, at 7:00PM.

*David Sprandel*

*9/11/2014*