

MENDHAM BOROUGH OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES 12/13/2012

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

1. Meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Connolly, at 7:03 PM.
 2. Mr. Connolly read the Adequate Notice Statement: Notice of this meeting was published in the Observer Tribune and the Daily Record on January 19, 2012 and was posted on the bulletin board in the Phoenix House on the same date in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.
 3. Roll Call:
 - George Connolly, Chair, Present
 - William DeBuvitz, Vice Chair, Absent
 - David Sprandel, Secretary, Present
 - John Andrus, Council Representative, Present
 - Peter Barry, Absent
 - Adam Slutsky, Absent
 - Charles Topping, Present
- Alternates:
- Keith McNair, Absent
4. Mr. Topping moved that the minutes, as amended by Mr. Connolly, be approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Andrus and the minutes for the meeting of September 13, 2012 were unanimously approved.
 5. Public Comment – Valentina Noto of North Jersey Resource Conservation & Development Council attended. She volunteered to offer her services to the committee to be of assistance. She has expertise in GIS mapping as well as outreach. John Andrus inquired if she might be able to suggest any new or unusual means by which individuals might be able to preserve open space. Also, a problem that would be of interest to solve is the fact that often properties become available with a rather short response time required. So, it would be of interest if we could find creative ways to prepare financing of the purchase of properties in anticipation of properties becoming available and thus significantly reduce our response time.
 6. Old Business
 - a. Tranquility Garden – Both Mr. Connolly and Mr. Andrus have reported a dearth of responses from Matt Marino to their requests for a status update on his project. At the moment it appears to be languishing. Mr. Connolly reported

that Ellen Sandman has suggested a good Arbor Day project would be to finish up this work. Mr. Topping suggested that the Garden Club might be approached to help with as well as organize the work.

b. Other – None.

7. New Business

- a. Update from the Borough Council – Mr. Andrus reported that the Borough Council has passed an ordinance to borrow money to fund the purchase of a new ladder truck for the fire department. The town is still receiving FEMA money from the Irene storm of last year. This year Lisa Smith is helping prepare FEMA paper work related to superstorm Sandy. The new sign ordinance is gradually being implemented.
- b. Storm Damage Repairs – Mr. Connolly reported that open space funds can be used to make repairs to open space properties. There is a question about whether or not this carries over to the Phoenix House?

8. Adjournment – Mr. Topping moved, Mr. Sprandel seconded and all approved we adjourn at 8:16 PM.

- a. The next regular meeting is scheduled for 1/10/2013, at 7:00PM.

A. G. S. Sprandel
1-10-2013