

## MENDHAM BOROUGH OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## MINUTES OF 1/12/17 MEETING

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

**A. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson, Mr. Connolly, at 7:00 PM.

**B. OPENING STATEMENT:**

Chairperson Connolly read the Adequate Notice Statement: Notice of this meeting was published in the Observer Tribune and the Daily Record and was posted on the bulletin board in the Phoenix House on the same date in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act.

**C. OATHS OF OFFICE:**

Chairperson Connolly noted that the Oaths of Office should have been taken in advance by the following members:

John Andrus – Council Representative

Peter Barry – Regular Member and Environmental Commission Liaison

William DeBuvitz – Regular Member

**D. ROLL CALL:**

Mr. Connolly, Chair, present

Mr. DeBuvitz, Vice Chair, present

Mr. Sprandel, Secretary, absent

Mr. Andrus, Council Representative, absent

Mr. Barry, present

Mr. Topping, present

Mr. Jephson, present

**E. 2017 REORGANIZATION:****1. Election of Officers:**

Chairperson: Mr. Barry nominated Mr. Connolly, Mr. DeBuvitz seconded the nomination, and Mr. Connolly was elected by the committee.

Vice Chairperson: Mr. Connolly nominated Mr. Barry, Mr. Topping seconded the nomination, and Mr. Barry was elected by the committee.

Secretary: Mr. Connolly nominated Mr. Sprandel, Mr. Jephson seconded the nomination, and Mr. Sprandel was elected by the committee.

**2. Approval of The Dates:**

The meeting dates are: 3/9/17, 5/11/17, 7/13/17, 9/14/17, 11/9/17, 1/11/18.

Mr. Connolly moved to approve the dates, Mr. Topping seconded the motion, and the dates were approved by the committee.

**3. Approval of Newspapers, etc:**

Mr. Connolly moved to approve the resolution regarding the Observer Tribune, the Daily Record, the posting on the bulletin board in the Phoenix, and the charge of

\$12.00 per year to be paid by any person requesting individual notices of the meetings . Mr. Topping seconded the motion and the resolution was approved by the committee.

**F. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Mr. Connolly moved to approve the minutes of 11/10/2016 meeting. Mr. Jephson seconded the motion and the minutes were approved by the committee.

**G. OPEN SPACE FUND:**

Mr. Connolly reported to the committee that the current balance is \$821,851.00

**H. OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **Scott Farm:** Morris County Open Space approved a grant for a trail on the property and Mr. Merkt will start construction on April 1<sup>st</sup>.
2. **Rowe Sheep Farm:** Mr. Rowe's major income will be from the sheep he raises. Members of the Open Space Committee will volunteer to help him apply to the Permanent Farm Preservation Program.
3. **Sisters of Christian Charity:** There is nothing new to report.
4. **Tranquility Garden:** There is a need for a group, perhaps the Garden Club, to maintain the garden. The committee will ask the Mayor to put in a request for volunteers, perhaps publish it in the newsletter and the local newspaper.
5. **Use of the Open Space Funds:** Mr. Connolly reports that the Borough Council is developing criteria for the use of the Open Space funds.

**I. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Mountain View Park Dam:** Mr. Ferriero will make a presentation to the Borough Council concerning the repair of the dam.
2. **Membership in the Environmental Commission:** Mr. Barry informed the Open Space Committee that there is a need for new members in the commission.
3. **The Need of a Ramp at the Robinson Drug Store:** Mr. Jephson informed the committee that Doctor John Kim, whose office is part of the Drug Store building, is in need of a ramp for accessibility by disabled patients. Mr. Connolly pointed out that although the building is considered to be historical which limits alterations, the Americans With Disabilities Act might have priority in this case.

**J. OTHER BUSINESS:**

There was none.

**K. ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. DeBuvitz moved for adjournment, Mr. Jephson seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 PM. The next meeting will be on March 9, 2017.