

**MENDHAM BOROUGH OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES 9/14/2017**

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

- 1. The Meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Connolly, at 7:06 PM.**
- 2. 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 in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.**
- 3. Roll Call:**
  - John Andrus, Council Representative, Present**
  - Eric Arena, Present**
  - Peter Barry, Present**
  - George Connolly, Chair, Present**
  - William DeBuvitz, Vice Chair, 7:19 P.M. Present**
  - David Sprandel, Secretary, Present**
  - Charles Topping, Present**
  
  - Alternate I: Robert Jephson, Present**
  - Alternate II: Susan Landau, Absent**
- 4. Approval of Minutes. – Mr. DeBuvitz moved, Mr Topping seconded and all approved the minutes of the last meeting.**
- 5. Public Comment – None.**
- 6. Open Space Fund –**

<b>A. Previous Balance:</b>	<b>\$793,190</b>
<b>B. Income from Interest:</b>	<b>\$199</b>
<b>C. Expenditures:</b>	<b>\$35,576</b>
<b>D. Current Balance:</b>	<b>\$757,813</b>
- 7. Old Business**
  - A. Scott Farm**
    - a. Structural Inspection of barn – Mr. Berry will take a contractor to examine the structural integrity of the barn.**

- b. Potential use of white utility building – Currently contains the Surrey and the model of the Phoenix House, which is used in the Labor Day Parade.

**B. Rowe Sheep Farm –**

- a. Mr. Andrus reported that the recent removal of trees adjacent to the farm and along Main St. was done by the country on their right-of-way. He also expects there will be money available to purchase the property if it should become available for purchase.
- b. Transition to Permanent preservation program. The owner expects progress in this regard.

**C. Tranquility Garden – Jennifer Linden project – She will do the plantings once the plants are acquired.**

**D. Use of Open Space Fund –**

**E. Mountain Valley Dam – Expect engineering costs of \$750,000 with draining and dredging of the pond.**

**F. Abner Doubleday 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday on 6/26/2019 – Mr. Topping would like to see the formation of a bicentennial committee that would oversee and organize the celebration of the Borough's most famous resident. Among the things that could be done would be to erect a sign at the entrance to the Borough that recognizes that he once lived here.**

**8. New Business**

**A. Open Space Inventory Update – Farmland assessed property is likely the most acceptable type of property to be allowed into the 8 year preservation program.**

**B. Other New Business – There is anonymous donor who will provide funds for bathrooms and handicap access.**

**9. Adjournment – The next regular meeting of the MBOSAC is scheduled for 11/15/2017, at 7:00PM at the Phoenix House, 2 W. Main St, Mendham, NJ.**

**Mr. Topping moved, Mr. DeBuvitz seconded and all approved we adjourn at 8:14 PM.**