

**BOROUGH OF KINNELON
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Meeting Minutes
June 13, 2018**

Meeting Called to Order (Time 7:35pm)

Roll Call: Attending: Council Liaison Glenn Sisco, Chairwoman T. Roselius, Vice Chairman R. Roy, George Warren, Environmental Committee Liaison S. Simptner
Absent: Mayor R. Collins, S. Spinelli, Lauren Abderhalden, Land Conservancy Liaison L. Glosinski

Hearing from the Public – Veer Talpade presented an idea for an Eagle project for Boy Scout Troup 277 to see if it was feasible. He would like to put in a community garden; he spoke with Mayor Collins who suggested the DPW yard as a possibility as that is near irrigation. He would like to build separate planting boxes, possibly 5x5, and develop it so that townspeople can sign up for a spot to plant whatever they wanted be it plants, vegetables or fruit. Would need some kind of fencing due to wildlife. Could lease the space, pay a small fee for water; maybe he could get a grant. Problem-there is gated access. Also can't disturb more than ¼ of an acre due to Highlands' restrictions. Would also need parking. Perhaps Silas Condict Park? Could put benches, tables, etc. off top of the dam. Would have to deal directly with Morris County. The committee suggested that Veer do all the due diligence-get all the pros and cons for each location, but the restrictions might be too much as this committee has been trying for years to find a place for a garden/dog park. Suggestions were to try the Boonton Township area off Kinnelon Road/Powerville Road-also would probably have to deal with Morris County.

Review/approve meeting minutes - Minutes for March 14, 2018 were approved; motion by S. Simptner, seconded by R. Roy; all in favor, none opposed.

Council Liaison Report - G. Sisco: Nothing new to report.

L'Ecole Restoration Status - B. Roy: Waiting for news about the awarding of the grant-Bob and Margaret Hickey (the Historical Architect) made their final appearance before the county where they made a brief presentation. The county members visited L'Ecole and loved what they saw. This grant money will be used to clean out the upstairs pink bathroom which is not used; clean out the closet that is housing ancient kitchen equipment; move a wall to make use of the bathroom space that is opening up; a/c the upper floor and start the a/c duct work for the rest of the building.

Old Business:

ROSI-Still awaiting the Declaration of Encumbrance, which then needs to be recorded at the County office. Can then be posted on the website if the Committee decides to do so.

KCC- There was a presentation on 5/31 to the boro. The Community Center will be used as a shelter for weather emergencies, a center for public events and house additional recreational fields. The Highlands Council has the final say in the approval process; that hearing is scheduled for August/September. The building will be close to the existing rec fields; half of the property will remain undeveloped. The property will include a concession stand and restrooms, it will be ADA compliant and will have stormwater management facilities. A rain garden is being proposed with native plantings as well as a multi-purpose field and additional 66 parking places. Inside will be a fireplace, living room; extra rooms for meetings-a place to come together as a home, not an industrial building.

NJDEP Trail Grant-Nothing new to report.

Totowa Construction-The property at 155 Boonton Avenue will be acquired once the homeowner's association excludes this lot. There is another six-acre piece of property acquired a few years ago across from the Boonton Avenue firehouse which is to be used towards a park for honoring veterans. The committee asked Council Liaison Glenn Sisco to ask the Mayor and Council if the Open Space committee could help with the planning. There are Highlands restrictions on this property; there are also some restrictions from the original Stonybrook Highland's homeowners' association.

Maple Lake–Nothing new to report; G. Sisco asked to eliminate this item from the agenda as there is no way to move forward because the NJDEP won't allow it.

New Pond- Nothing new to report.

Dog Park- Nothing new to report.

Discussion on community gardens in Kinnelon-they haven't worked well in other towns, unless it's on DPW's budget and they're responsible for it, as after the initial project is completed the ongoing maintenance tends to become lax.

New Business:

T. Roselius recommended meeting every other month next year. A meeting would be scheduled for every month but cancelled if there was no pressing business to discuss.

S. Simptner asked G. Sisco to ask Council about filling the three open Open Space member slots.

T. Roselius is planning to reach out to the administrators and teachers at KHS to try and recruit students.

B. Roy asked if the Open Space committee can help out during the change in administration so the KCC project continues to move along. T. Roselius asked if G. Sisco could ask Council to see if they would like any assistance at all.

G. Warren will work on townwide trails over the summer.

T. Roselius asked if there is a way to recognize Lauren Abderhalden's outstanding contributions to the committee; G. Sisco will ask Council how they might like to acknowledge her.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 11, 2018 – 7:30 pm, 2nd Floor Borough Hall

Adjournment: Time 9:08pm on a motion by R. Roy and seconded by G. Warren; all in favor, none opposed.

At the July 11, 2018 meeting, on a motion by S. Spinelli, and seconded by G. Warren, and the affirmative voice vote of all members present, the June 13, 2018 minutes were approved.

