

**HOPATCONG JOINT MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL
COMMISSION/OPEN SPACE
NOVEMBER 3, 2005**

The joint meeting of the Hopatcong Environmental Commission and the Open Space/Recreation Committee was opened by Mayor Richard Hodson at 7:47 p.m. with a statement that this meeting is held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-1 et seq., annual notice having been forwarded to The New Jersey Herald, The Sunday Herald and The Daily Record and posted on the bulletin board maintained in the Municipal Building for public announcements.

Joan Reilly made a motion to appoint Marie Filoso acting secretary for tonight's meeting. Sylvia Petillo seconded the motion and all were in favor.

ROLL CALL: Environmental Commission

PRESENT: Bernice Gleason
Sam Hoagland
Malcolm Piester
Elizabeth Mauro
Mary Takacs

ABSENT: Connie Janowski (excused)
Marty Janowski (excused)
Mercedes Walker

ROLL CALL: Open Space/Recreation Committee

PRESENT: Richard Hodson
Susan Jones
Clifford Lundin
Elizabeth Mauro
Sylvia Petillo
Joan Reilly

ABSENT: Elide Young

Susan Jones led the Salute to the Flag and a moment of silence.

Mary Takacs announced that Mrs. Kruger, from the Passaic River Coalition is here to discuss the Natural Resources Inventory.

**APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 28, 2005 ENVIRONMENTAL
COMMISSION MINUTES**

Elizabeth Mauro made a motion to approve the September 28, 2005 minutes for the Environmental Commission. Sam Hoagland seconded the motion and all were in favor.

APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 6, 2005 ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION/OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Sylvia Petillo made a motion to approve the October 6, 2005 minutes for the Environmental Commission/Open Space Committee. Elizabeth Mauro seconded the motion and all were in favor. ABSTAIN: R. Hodson, S. Hoagland.

Mary Takacs stated to Mrs. Kruger that the reason for tonight's meeting is to learn the progress of our ERI. Mrs. Kruger said that we need to get the ERI finished and the thing to do tonight is "How to Communicate." Cliff Lundin asked what the status of the contract was. Mrs. Kruger said there is a grant for the Environmental Commission (and the Council matched it) Mrs. Kruger discussed the rough draft with the board members. The original NRI was done in the early 1970's. The maps need to be redone because there have been a lot of changes since then. The evaluation of the land has to be done as well as the soils data, the geology, and what the principal use of the NRI is to be determined. Mayor Hodson stated that the basis for the study of water availability is important, and another important factor is a picture of the Borough and just what the Borough is like but we do not have current soils maps. Cliff Lundin said that we have to make sure that a soils map is available for the NRI. Mary Takacs asked Mrs. Kruger if she could accommodate each outline with maps. Mayor Hodson wishes to know what is embodied in the Land Uses in Hopatcong. Mrs. Kruger said that this is industrial, commercial and transportation (residential, recreational, woods, meadow and marsh). She said that a lot of the area to protect is in these categories. The board members went on to discuss the new Natural Resources Inventory and Cliff Lundin asked Mrs. Kruger when she would be in a position to share the rough draft so it can be edited. Sam Hoagland said that the rough draft would help aid in preparing the borough's documents. Mayor Hodson requested copies of a rough draft by December 1, 2005. Mayor Hodson is asking the Passaic River Coalition to give a true picture of Hopatcong so the people who have to make the decisions, as to how to live in the environment, will have information upon which to make the decisions.

Cliff Lundin made a motion to request a six month extension on the grant. Sam Hoagland seconded the motion and all were in favor.

TRAILS DISCUSSION

Mary Takacs re-introduced Desiree Dunn from the Morris Land Conservancy. Desiree discussed the date for the workshop session for the public. The date will be set for December 1, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. This meeting will be for finishing the trails text. Desiree said that she will provide a flyer for advertising and publicizing. Desiree said that separating the town into areas choosing Veteran's Field as the first phase and making it the focal point, then implementing the trails by inviting who would be involved with this implementation. Costs and "Right of Way" of this project is a major factor and needs to be discussed at some point. Desiree Dunn is requesting a tour of Hopatcong's trails. Cliff Lundin and Mary Takacs agreed to accommodate Desiree on a tour of the town.

ADJOURN

Joan Reilly made a motion to adjourn the Open Space Committee meeting at 9:28 p.m. Sylvia Petillo seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Bernice Gleason made a motion to adjourn the Environmental Commission meeting at 9:29 p.m. Elizabeth Mauro seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Filoso
Recording Secretary