

**OPEN SPACE/RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING
5 FEBRUARY 2005 HOPATCONG MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

The meeting was opened at 7:30 PM in the Municipal Building. by Chairperson Susan Jones. The Open Public Act meeting statement was given. The meeting was tape-recorded for the purpose of constructing minutes. Roll call indicated the following members were present: Richard Hodson, Susan Jones, Elizabeth Mauro, Sylvia Petillo, Joan Reilly, and Elide Young. The Planning/Zoning representative has not been appointed yet.

On motion of Reilly and Petillo, and the affirmative votes of all Richard Hodson was appointed acting secretary for the meeting.

- 1. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Chairperson Jones.**
- 2. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON;. DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON, DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL SECRETARY (not recording secretary) Mayor Hodson opened the meeting for nominations for chairperson. On motion of Petillo and Young, and the affirmative vote of all, Susan Jones was elected chairperson. Chairperson Jones then conducted the meeting. DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON; On motion of Reilly and Mauro, and the affirmative vote of all, Elide Young was elected Deputy-Chairperson. DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL SECRETARY (not recording secretary) On motion of Reilly and Petillo, and the affirmative vote of all, Elizabeth Mauro was elected Secretary.**
- 3. RESOLUTIONS ESTABLISHING MEETING DATES/TIMES/LOCATION; OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS; AGENDA FOR MEETINGS; LOCATION FOR POSTING NOTICES**

Following discussion of the frequency and dates of meetings, on motion of Reilly and Young and the affirmative votes of all the following resolution was adopted establishing meeting dates/time/location, the official newspapers, official site for posting notices, and typical meeting agenda.

WHEREAS: the adoption of the Open Public Meeting Act prohibits public bodies from having closed door meetings and requires the notice to be given to two newspapers and that this notice be filed with the Borough Clerk,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That at the Reorganization Meeting held on February 3, 2005, the Borough of Hopatcong Open Space/Recreation Committee designates the first Thursday of February, April, June, September, and November 2005 as their regular meeting dates for 2005, said meetings to convene at 7:30 P.M., and

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: That at the Meeting held on February 2, 2005, the Borough of Hopatcong Open Space/Recreation Committee designated the 3 February 2005 meeting as the reorganization meeting for 2005, and that the first Thursday in February 2006, 2 February 2006, will be the Reorganization Meeting for 2006. The meeting is to convene at 7:30 P.M. No regular meeting will be scheduled in January 2006.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: That the New Jersey Herald, and the Daily Record be designated as the official newspapers of the Open Space/Recreation Committee. In addition, the Committee will provide notices of meetings to the Sunday Herald, and the Star-Ledger.

Any person requesting a public body to mail them copies of any of the scheduled meeting dates or revision, and any advance written notice of regular, special or rescheduled meetings shall be charged the sum of one dollar for each and every notice mailed. No notice shall be mailed unless prepayment of the aforesaid charge has been received. Notwithstanding the foregoing, and notices requested by the news media shall be mailed to such news media free of charge.

**SCHEDULED MEETING DATES FOR THE BOROUGH OF
HOPATCONG OPEN SPACE/RECREATION COMMITTEE –
2005/2006**

February 3, 2005
April 7, 2005
June 2, 2005
September 1, 2005
November 3, 2005
February 2, 2006

THE AGENDA FOR ALL MEETINGS

- 1. Opening of Meeting/Open Public meetings Act Statement/Roll Call**
- 2. Moment of Silent Reflection/Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Approval of Minutes/ Authorize Payment of Bills**
- 4. Meeting open to the public for discussion of items on the agenda**
- 5. Committee Reports**
- 6. Old Business**
- 7. New Business**
- 8. Open to public for discussion of all items**
- 9. Adjournment of Meeting**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The public place at which all notices shall be posted will be the bulletin board situated in the hallway in the Municipal Building, and that the copies of this Resolution be given to all aforementioned newspapers and one copy of this Resolution be filed with the Borough Clerk.

- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JOINT MEETING 22 SEPT. :**
On motion of Young and Mauro and the affirmative votes of Young, Mauro, Hodson, and Jones, the minutes of the 22 September 2004 meeting were approved. Petillo and Reilly abstained.
- 5. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA. No one in the audience chose to speak.**

6. DISTRIBUTE LIST OF MEMBERS; Copies of a list of the Open Space/Recreation Committee were distributed. They were reviewed by the members, and changed accordingly

7. OLD BUSINESS:

**STATUS OF OPEN SPACE/RECREATION COMMITTEE
TRUST FUND ENDORSEMENTS**

SUMMARY OF PROJECTS APPROVED

BY THE RECREATION/OPEN SPACE COM.

OPEN SPACE/RECREATION COM. 12/31/2004

PROJECT

THREE 60 FT BASEPATH FIELDS, ON HILL BEHIND CIVIC CENTER	\$100,000
ROLLER HOCKEY RINK	\$30,000
WALKWAY-MODICK PARK	\$8,000
VETERANS WAY IMPROVEMENT	\$18,500
VETERANS FIELD EXTENSION	\$20,000
SKATEBOARD PARK	\$120,000
LOW LEVEL LIGHTING-CC HILL	\$45,000
	\$341,500

At the end of 2004 the total expenditure recommended/authorized by the Open Space/Recreation Committee was \$341,500. Negotiations continue between the sewer contractor and the Hopatcong School District over the use of fill made available from the sewer project. Accordingly, the "60 FT BASEPATH FIELDS" project is on hold. The ROLLER HOCKEY RINK is essentially complete. The extension of the WALKWAY in MODICK PARK is complete. Of the items in the VETERANS WAY IMPROVEMENT the poles and banners are up and the planter area constructed. When the weather breaks, a low

wall is to be constructed to replace the rope barrier. As part of the VETERANS FIELD EXTENSION, fill has been placed and spread. Topsoil and seeding is to be done. The SKATEBOARD PARK was bid twice. There were imperfections in the bids. One of the contractors is now on State Contract. The Borough Council will review proposals and decide how to proceed. Mr. Ruschke, the Borough Engineer, has drafted a proposal through which one of the fields on top of the hill behind the Civic Center can be lighted, as part of the LOW LEVEL LIGHTING-CC HILL project. There was some discussion about the involvement in deciding the final layout for the skateboard park.

During 2004 the Committee started discussing the need for paths and walkways. Some locations were considered. It was recognized that a specific plan was required to address this need.

NEW BUSINESS: GOAL:PATHS/WALKWAYS The Committee discussed establishing as a goal for 2005 the development of a comprehensive plan for paths and walkways in the Borough. Development of paths and walkways will benefit all residents of the Borough. Emphasis should be placed on projects near developed areas of the Borough, on projects over which the grades are not too steep, and on initial projects relatively easy to implement. On motion of Petillo and Young, and the affirmative votes of Hodson, Jones, Mauro, Petillo, and Young, the Committee established as a goal for 2005 the development of such a plan Reilly abstained.

When the Open Space tax was being discussed in 1999 prior to its adoption, the emphasis of the discussion was on such needs as lighting of fields, not the acquisition of land for passive use nor environment sensitivity. Much of the Borough is either developed (town center designated), set aside by the Borough in an Environmental Trust or in the Highlands preserved area. Of the remaining area Green Acres indicated an interest in a 200 acre parcel. Approximately 30 acres along the Musconetcong River will be preserved as wetlands. Should the Senior Citizen-Age

Restricted – 662 unit project be approved, about 130 acres of the 300 acre lot will be set aside.

9. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS:
The meeting was opened to the public by Chairperson Jones. No one desired to speak.

10. ADJOURNMENT: At 8:48 PM on motion of Young and Reilly and the affirmative votes of all, the meeting was adjourned.

**2005 OPEN SPACE/RECREATION COMMITTEE
THE PLANNING/ZONING SEAT ON THE COMMITTEE HAS
NOT BEEN FILLED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL.**

Richard Hodson, Mayor

**BOR HALL, 111 River Styx Rd, Hopatcong, 973-770-1200 EXT 113
32 Musconetcong Av., Hopatcong, NJ 07843 home 973 398 1422**

**Susan Jones, Mayor's Appointee, Chairperson 973-398-5561
14 Elba Avenue, Hopatcong, N.J. 07843**

**Elizabeth Mauro, Environmental Com. Secretary 973-398-7165
35 Dupont Avenue, Hopatcong, N.J. 07843**

Sylvia Petillo, Councilmember

**BOR HALL, 111 River Styx Rd, Hopatcong 973-770-1200 EXT 163
9 Rapalyea Road, Hopatcong, N.J. 07843 home 973 398 6650**

Joan Reilly, Recreation 973-398-1292

8 Shears Rd., Hopatcong – mailing Stanhope, NJ 07874

**Elide Young, Council Appointee, Vice Chairperson 973-398-2241
29 Rapalyea Road -- P.O. Box 29, Hopatcong, N.J. 07843**

**Meeting times 7:30 PM 1st Thursday of February, April, June,
September, November 2005 and February 2006**