

**OPEN SPACE/RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING
4 AUGUST 2004, HOPATCONG MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

The meeting was opened at 7:35 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, Joan Reilly, Laurie Spaziani, and Elide Young. Absent was Robert Daddis. A quorum was present.

On motion of Young and Spaziani, 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. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.** No one desired to speak.
- 3. MINUTES 1 April 2004.** On 12 April the minutes were circulated to the Committee members who had attended the meeting. On motion of Reilly and Young, and the affirmative votes of Hodson, Jones, Reilly, and Young, with Mauro and Spaziani abstaining, the minutes of the 1 April meeting were approved.
- 4. OLD BUSINESS:**
 - a. STATUS OF OPEN SPACE/RECREATION COMMITTEE TRUST FUND ENDORSEMENTS:** The signs and planters in the Veterans Way improvement project have been installed. The poles, banners, and attachment clamps have arrived. The poles should be up by 20 August, and the banners attached shortly thereafter. The contract for the fencing at the Roller Hockey Rink/Skateboard Park has been awarded. Bidding the Skateboard Park has been authorized by the Mayor and Council. The Council has included requests on timing so that the onsite portion of the project construction not be done in the winter. The three 60 ft basepath fields behind the Civic Center have been approved in concept by the School District. The Borough enquired about purchasing land behind the Civic Center from the School District. The District has indicated that rather than sale of

land, it prefers joint development. The District has approved Borough requests in the past. Council President Spaziani indicated that the Borough Council has discussed, in general, field possibilities including one behind the Durban Avenue School.

b. Trails: At prior meetings the Committee has discussed the need for trails/paths for walking and biking. Committee Member has looked into the Patriot Path model. As the Committee has a general interest in this topic spanning a range of length of paths, the Committee will suggest to the Environmental Commission that there be a joint meeting of the Commission and the Committee to explore possibilities. Mapping of existing trails is possible from aerial mapping and by use of the Borough's GPS unit. It may be possible to include the mapping in the Borough's Environmental Resource Inventory to be revised over the next few months.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Low level lighting of fields 2 and 3 behind the Civic Center. A general proposal was presented to the Committee for lighting fields two and three behind the Civic Center (the two football fields). Although discussed this project has not been approved yet by the Council, or the School Board, although the School District has indicated positive interest. In rough form the project would provide 4 telephone type poles with lights on each of the two fields. The lighting fixtures would provide illumination suitable for football/soccer practice, not game condition lighting. The fixtures would be directed so as not to "light up the sky". To be resolved with the School District is its approval of the project, the timing of the shared use, and the adequacy of the lighting. Council President Spaziani indicated concern for lighting in the parking lot and access road, which can be addressed by additional poles with lights and by putting additional light fixtures on some the poles directed toward the parking area. Committee member Reilly suggested some lighting might be attached to the storage/refreshment building.

b. MEETING SCHEDULE: The original schedule of Committee meetings was February 5, 2004, April 1, 2004, June 3, 2004,

September 2, 2004, November 4, 2004, February 3, 2005. The June meeting was cancelled. On motion of Reilly, second by Young, and the affirmative votes of all, the "September meeting is to be changed to 22 September, and to be a joint meeting with the Environmental Commission. If the joint meeting cannot be arranged, the September meeting is to be held on September 2nd."

6. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS: No one desired to speak.

7. ADJOURNMENT: At 8:45 PM on motion of Young and Spaziani, and the affirmative votes of all the meeting was adjourned.

The next scheduled meeting of the Open Space/Recreation Committee will be 7:30 PM Wednesday, 22 September 2004