

**OPEN SPACE/RECREATION COMMITTEE AND
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION JOINT MEETING
4 MAY 2006 HOPATCONG MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

The Open Space/Recreation Committee meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM in the Municipal Building, by Chairperson Elide Young.

The major purpose of the meeting, a Joint meeting with the Hopatcong Environmental Commission, was the presentation, and discussion of the Greenway/Trails Plan for the Borough of Hopatcong.

The Open Public Act meeting statement was given. In accordance with the National Fire Underwriters directive the fire exits from the room and building were given.

The meeting was tape-recorded for the purpose of constructing minutes. Roll call indicated the following members were present: Richard Hodson, Cliff Lundin, Sylvia Petillo, Joan Reilly, and Elide Young. Absent was Elizabeth Mauro. Susan Jones arrived at 8:40 PM.

The Environmental Commission was called to order by vice-chairperson Bernice Gleason at 7:45 PM. Roll call indicated the following members were present: Bernice Gleason, Patrick Gleason, Sharon Gruber, and Malcolm Piester. Absent were: Elizabeth Mauro, Mary Takacs, and Sam Hoagland.

On motion of Reilly and Petillo, and the affirmative votes of all, Richard Hodson was appointed acting secretary for the meeting by the Open Space Committee. On motion of Gruber and Piester, and the affirmative votes of all, Richard Hodson was appointed acting secretary for the meeting by the Environmental Commission.

- 1. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Chairperson Young and Bernice Gleason.**
- 2. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA. No one in the audience chose to speak.**
- 3. PRESENTATION OF GREENWAY/TRAILS PLAN FOR THE BOROUGH OF HOPATCONG:**

Ten copies of the draft Trails plan provided by Morris Land Conservancy were distributed to members present. Morris Land Conservancy also a copy on a CD. Those assembled were taken through the Plan by Barbara Davis of Morris Land Conservancy. For approximately an hour there was general discussion of the Plan. The focus of the meeting was the trails map. Noticably absent from the draft was a greenway section. This will be inserted into the final version. The current master plan has a section on greenways. It was suggested that possibly by reaching out to land owners one might be able to get land

and/or easements for the greenways and for the trails. The Council is looking for a site for a dog park. It was expressed that possibly one could combine a trail and parking with the siting of the dog park. An off road vehicle ordinance from Randolph is included as an appendix to the Plan.

Copies of the draft plan will be distributed to the Borough Council, Borough Planning Board members, Recreation Commission members, Police Chief Swanson, Engineer Ruschke, Planner Nelson, and the Open Space Committee and Environmental Commission members not in attendance. All recipients are asked to review the plan and forward comments to Mayor Hodson by Tuesday 30 May.

The next meeting will be Thursday 1 June. All comments about the Plan received by Mayor Hodson by Tuesday 30 May will be assembled for presentation at the 1 June and are to be forwarded to the Morris Land Conservancy. The 1 June meeting will be in a public workshop format. The Environmental Commission may be able to discuss the Plan on the 24th, both before and after their speaker. On the 24th the Environmental Commission will decide if the 1 June meeting is to be a Joint Meeting with the Open Space Committee.

4. OLD BUSINESS:

A brief discussion was held of the Borough's search for a dog park site.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

No additional new business was discussed.

5. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS: The meeting was opened to the public by Chairperson Young and vice-Chairperson Gleason. No one chose to speak.

6.. ADJOURNMENT: At 9 PM on motion of Reilly and Jones and the affirmative votes of all Open Space Committee members, the Open Space meeting was adjourned. At 9:02 PM on motion of Gruber and Piester and the affirmative votes of all Environmental Commission members, the Environmental Commission meeting was adjourned.