

**MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 10, 2019  
POMPTON LAKES OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE**

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm.

Present were Mayor Michael Serra, Councilman Erik DeLine, Council Liaison Jennifer Polidori, Maria Kent, Julie Doncoes for Lauren Venin, Randy Hinton for Ann Tacinelli, Mike Barbara, Mike Riga, Orlando Mundaca, Lauren Venin, Tim Troast and Board Secretary Kathy Troast. Mike Simone was excused. Frank Russo was absent.

**Minutes- September 13, 2018:** Approved

**Ordinance For Open Space Membership** There is a need to update the current ordinance due to the addition of a sixth voting district. The committee discussed the difficulty they have in forming a quorum due to the number of voting members currently needed on the Committee. Councilman DeLine suggested changing the Open Space Ordinance and offered some suggestions.

There were several proposals and suggestions. The committee discussed the pros and cons of changing the ordinance to an at large representation vs. district representation. It was suggested that it would be less difficult to fill positions with at large positions; however this could also create a situation where not all areas of town would be best represented.

- Maria Kent gave a brief history on the makeup of the committee when first created and explained there is actually a tax collected and the committee has a voice in suggesting to the Mayor and Council the best way to utilize the tax dollars, she also expressed that she believed this framework should remain in place for this reason as well as the fact that all areas of town have different needs and should all be represented.
- Lauren Venin gave an example of her reasoning in taking her position for the district she lives in and having someone other than herself represent the Flood Advisory Board as the chairperson, therefore having the advantage of two voting persons representing the interests of the Flood Advisory.
- Tim Troast suggested keeping the voting district representation as it is as well as the two council and mayor's positions permanent. He further suggested making the Chairperson positions that are currently permanent positions ex officio positions. Mr. Troast explained this would bring the permanent positions down to nine from where it currently is at fifteen. The number of members present would come down to five from where it currently is at eight. This would be more pragmatic in creating a quorum and being able to conduct business.

Not being able to come to a distinctive outcome the discussion will be continued at the next meeting.

**Willow Field Concept and Passaic County Open Space Application**

Councilman DeLine suggested with the completion of the Morris Canal Greenway the next logical project would be the Willow Field improvements. The Committee was provided revised printed conceptual plans, updated costs estimate, Blue Acres property informational material and a diagram of tot lot structure. There was lengthy discussion over the costs, materials and the layout of the various fields within the property. Councilman DeLine also suggested that the committee pursue Passaic County Open Space funding for this project.

**Muller Property Improvements Subcommittee** The subcommittee will meet in the near future. Mayor Mike Serra and Councilwoman Polidori met with Easy Dock and discussed many variables concerning the dock project. An estimate of \$465,000 was given. This estimate is for the complete project; however the project can be done incrementally over time.

**Trails and Maintenance** Duties were set at the annual meeting. Family Hike dates will be during the months of March, October and November. June 1<sup>st</sup> is National Trails Day. Winter Maintenance Day February 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Open Space Trust Fund Balance:** Has been no change since last month. Additional funds will be deposited in the near future.

**Sustainable Jersey Certification in 2019** The Borough was recognized and presented with a Bronze Certificate at the League of Municipalities. Councilman DeLine stated the Borough continues to work towards a Silver status.

**Public Discussion:** none

Motion to adjourn – Lauren Venin, 2nd Tim Troast Adjourn 9:31 P.M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathy Troast, Secretary