

**MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 13, 2022  
POMPTON LAKES OPEN SPACE MEETING**

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m.

Present were: Mayor, Mike Serra, Council President, Jennifer Polidori, Councilwoman, Maria Kent, Jason Lovasi, Tim Troast, Mike Fasouletos, Mike Riga, Lauren Venin, Mike Barberia for Karen Murphy, Julie Doncoes, and Board Secretary, Bernadette Chillemi. Randy Hinton, Karen Murphy, Mike Meeker, Jared Luciani, and Lloyd Kent were excused.

**Minutes – December 10, 2021:** Approved

**2022 Outlook:**

Jennifer Polidori met with Mike from MRC and Dan O'Rourke from DPW. The following are suggestions/comments regarding each park.

**Lakeside Park**

The spinning merry-go-round was fixed and reinstalled. Additional ADA compliance.

**Gallo-Pacifico Park Project**

The suggestion was to keep the green village piece and 3 rocking animals. The DPW will make some repairs to certain pieces and the dinosaur will be removed. Eventually all older pieces will be removed. The plan is to install an inclusive play piece, some smaller structure for a tot lot (5 years old and under). Additionally, there is a plan to install some advanced pieces more age appropriate for "Tweens". Looking into changing the surface from mulch to an easier to maintain, anti-weed area cover. Lauren Venin asked about the usage of rubber mulch in proximity to the water. Mike Barberia spoke about the dead tree behind the basketball court. Committee is to reach out to Randy Hinton.

**Stiles Park**

Addition of inclusive play piece.

**Hershfield Park**

Mayor advised that the rehab to Hershfield Park will be done in phases. The Borough has applied for a grant from Passaic County Open Space. The following represents the initial plan for Phase 1:

Phase 1: The improvement of the pieces in the middle of the picnic table area to include inclusive play piece. Dan pointed out several trees to come down. Mike Barberia commented that the trees are important means of shade to the camp program. Dan suggested to remove 2 pieces of playground equipment and add smaller children play area. Dan advised that the swings are in good shape. A fitness circuit along the walking trail including 4-5 pieces to address each part of the body. The lionshare of the project will be the repaving of the walkway. The committee discussed removing the impervious asphalt and replacing with regular asphalt. Lauren Venin commented on the asphalt and importance of longevity of the replacement as well as obtaining other opinions. The committee would like to have better lighting on the walking path.

As a side note, the structure near the bridge has been brought to members' attentions that it is a hazard. Additionally, noted that the headwall is collapsing. It was also discussed where the bathrooms could be relocated, if they can be laid out differently considering the flood zone area. A pavilion was also mentioned for shade and use for different events as well as summer camp.

Hershfield Park is the most expensive rehab of all parks with an estimate of \$900,000 for Phase 1.

Would like Recreation Committee's input on the Hershfield Park project.

**Public Hearing February 23, 2022**

The Mayor advised that a public hearing is scheduled for February 23, 2022 regarding replacing the facilities at Hershfield Park.

Open Space Balance - \$502,974<sup>1</sup>

Public Discussion: None

Motion to adjourn – Lauren Venin, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mike Fasouletos – Adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Bernadette Chillemi  
Bernadette Chillemi, Secretary

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<sup>1</sup> Balance not accounting the promise to allocate \$100,000 to the Willow Field Project