

TOWNSHIP OF HAMPTON

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*Eileen Klose
Township Administrator*

*Kathleen Armstrong, RMC
Township Clerk*

**OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 1, 2012
MINUTES**

THE MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN FORMALLY APPROVED AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE OR MODIFICATION AT THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING.

FLAG SALUTE: Chairman Glenn Schweizer led The Flag Salute at 7:06 PM.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Philip Yetter, Margaret Couse, Arne Goytil, Alan Martin, John Major and Chairman Glenn Schweizer. Also Present: Barbara Davis from the Land Conservancy and Township Administrator Eileen Klose.

STATEMENT: Chairman Glenn Schweizer stated that the meeting was being held in compliance with the provisions of the Sunshine Law. Adequate notice of the meeting has been published in the New Jersey Herald being the Sunday and Daily editions as to a time and place. It is posted in the usual location of posted notices in the municipal building.

MINUTES: A MOTION was made by A. Martin and seconded by A. Goytil, with all members in favor, to approve the August 6, 2012 Minutes.

DISCUSSION

Barbara Davis from The Land Conservancy presented maps and information relating to the updates on the Hampton Township Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Chairman G. Schweizer stated that B. Davis has been working on the task of updating the Open Space Plan with the Township. The tour that the Open Space Committee took on September 25th was very interesting and included various areas of interest in the township. As discussed on the tour, the next step would be to have B. Davis present her findings based on additional information that she gathered on the tour and to give a status report on the Plan update to the Open Space Committee.

Barbara started the presentation by stating that she brought three maps, the original Open Space map and two additional maps that she prepared for review. The next step would be to develop an Open Space map by confirming the preserved land and the greenway area. She stated that she intends to have this ready for the Planning Board meeting being held Thursday, October 18th. The purpose of presenting this to the Planning Board is to show the members what the Open Space Committee is working on and to get their input before it is finalized in one document.

Township Administrator E. Klose stated that the preserved map does not show the recently added Gordon property located along Route 206.

B. Davis stated that she would check with the County to find out why it is not on their list.

B. Davis stated that the Greenway Map, which was developed in 2000 was a good map, and that the Open Space Committee should look to see what progress has been made since that time. She went over what the colors symbolize on the map.

B. Davis stated that she wants to be able to stand in front of the Planning Board and state that in 2000 the Open Space Committee identified 40 properties totaling X amount of acres and since that time, they have preserved 50% of those properties totaling X amount of acres. She wants to present what the Open Space Committee still has to do and also be sure of the accuracy of the information of what they want to communicate to the Planning Board.

Mayor Yetter suggested that the parcels on the map be identified by a name. The colors can still be included, but it would be a lot easier to know which property it is if there was a name associated with the parcel. Barbara agreed with this suggestion. He also suggested using another color to signify the areas that the Committee is targeting so that they have an idea which ones they should be working on. Last week, the Green Acres Garden State Preservation Trust announced the awards for non-profits and municipalities that had applied to the State for funding. Those awards represent the total funds that the state has available. Any further funds would only be available if the State is able to reallocate money from other sources. They did not announce what the state itself has available for funding for state direct financing, which is what Hampton has accessed in the past.

She stated that she would create a power point presentation for the Planning Board meeting. She said that the presentation would be very clear and show that in 2000 the Open Space Trust Fund had X dollars and in 2012 it has X. She can compare the preserved land the township had in 2000 with the preserved land they have in 2012. B. Davis stated that everything the Open Space Committee has done so far was by leveraging local dollars in partnership with other resources. What they have not done has been to acquire land for solely a municipal purpose. They are not in the Green Acres Municipal Program so they cannot access state funds for municipal acquisition and the county no longer has meaningful dollars for local acquisition. If a property becomes available that the town wants for municipal purpose, the township is going to have to use municipal funds.

B. Davis expressed her opinion that it would be most effective if the Open Space Committee members are at the October 18th Planning Board meeting. B. Davis stated she's comfortable running the meeting and that Glenn Schweizer could open up the presentation by stating why the

Open Space Committee is updating their plan, and what they feel they've accomplished. He could then turn it over to B. Davis to go over the mapping, the structure, the planning, and the schedule. There would be an opportunity for questions from the Planning Board and the Public.

P. Yetter expressed his concern with the State paying \$5000-\$7000 an acre for land that cannot be developed because of existing environmental issues. He stated that if the State does not want to lower the price per acre on the swamps/wetlands, they should increase the amount they pay for good farmland by a few more thousand dollars to match.

B. Davis stated that after the Planning Board meeting she will pull all of the information together and create a written document. Her goal is to have everything ready by November 2012.

A. Martin asked if there was any more consideration to a Senior/Community Center as discussed at a past meeting.

Barbara commented that the goals for the plan have the Senior/Community Center idea included. She stated it that it was discussed in August, but that it is not geographically shown on the map.

P. Yetter brought up the idea of a walking path around the recreational park as well. He stated that this has been an expressed interest by members of the community. Mayor Yetter stated that funding is the main issue on how to accomplish some of the townships goals for the community.

OPEN DISCUSSION

No discussion.

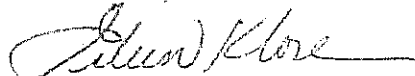
PUBLIC SESSION

No public comments.

ADJORNMENT

A **MOTION** was made by Mayor Yetter and seconded by A. Martin, with all members in favor, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Eileen Klose
Township Administrator/
Open Space Secretary