



Hunterdon County Open Space Trust Fund Program

Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting Notes of January 17th, 2017

AGENDA 1. POSAC convened on Tuesday January 17, 2017, at the Route 12 Hunterdon County Complex, Flemington, NJ. Vice Chair Guenther welcomed those in attendance and the meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Two new Committee members were introduced, Juergen Huelsebusch from Readington Township, and Kenneth Novak as Planning Board Liaison.

MEMBERS PRESENT: *H. JORDAN GUENTHER, KENNETH NOVAK, JUERGEN HUELSEBUSCH, SUZANNE WILDER*
Excused: *EARLE STEEVES, GERRY LYNESS, BILL BOWLBY*

AGENDA 2. Approval of the November 21st, 2016 Meeting notes: Suzanne Wilder made a motion to approve the minutes. Jordan Guenther seconded. Motion passed with Ken Novak and Juergen Huelsebusch abstaining.

AGENDA 3. Review/Final Recommendation Municipal Grant Applications

- **Lambertville – Ely Park ADA Compliance Project:** Staff presented the details of the City's plans to improve ADA access to Ely Park with the addition of new bleachers. Staff also updated presented clarifying information from the Freeholder Board as to whether maintenance-type projects such as these were supported. The inclusion of a Recreation and Maintenance Plan that addresses the proposed project allows for such a project to be funded through this program. Ken Novak made a motion to approve. Juergen Huelsebusch seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA 4. Review/Final Recommendation Nonprofit Grant Program Applications

- **Raritan Headwaters Association – Higgins Phase 2:** Discussion of this application was combined with the East Amwell Cooperative Grant application.

AGENDA 5. Review/Final Recommendation Cooperative Grant Program Applications

- **East Amwell Township – Higgins Phase 2:** New Jersey Conservation Foundation representatives presented the concept plan of Phase 2 of the Higgins Acquisition Plan. This new phase proposes to acquire an additional 270 acres adjacent to the 130 acre Phase 1. The Committee discussed the potential management plan for the property as well as funding opportunities and plans for improvements to the property such as parking, trails, and informational kiosks. Suzanne Wilder made a motion to approve both the Raritan Headwaters Association application and the East Amwell Township Application. Juergen Huelsebusch seconded. Motion passed with Ken Novak abstaining.

Cont.

AGENDA 6. – PARKS OPERATIONAL

- Fee Schedule – South County Park: Staff presented the updated and simplified fee schedule for South County Park. The Fee Schedule was developed to simplify the original structure and make administration of the fees easier. This was developed in conjunction with 4-H. Ken Novak made a motion to recommend approval of the fee schedule. Suzanne Wilder seconded. Motion passed.
- Staff gave brief updates on the status of the Heron Glen Golf Course management contract award to Kemper Sports, the Prescott Bridge, the pavilion at Hoffman Park, the Court St. Gazebo repairs, the Dog Park, Deer Path dam repair, the summer concert series, and the updates to the farm leases on County parkland.

AGENDA 7. – NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS

- LeCompte Property Donation – camping: Staff presented an updated proposal regarding the property donation adjacent to the Raritan River and County Park property under the condition that organized group camping be allowed on the property in question. Staff addressed many of the items discussed by the Committee previously related to the operation of campsites on the property as well as logistical issues regarding the donation. Ken Novak made a motion to recommend approval of the donation. Juergen Huelsebusch seconded. Motion passed.
- Strategic Parks Plan - Staff gave an update to the status of the Strategic Parks & Open Space Plan and the public outreach as part of the progress draft rollout.
- Faubel Property – Development Review: Staff presented information about the proposal to install solar panels on a portion of property on which the County holds a Conservation Easement. The Committee discussed the language of the conservation easement. Suzanne Wilder made a motion to reject the request for the installation of solar panels. Juergen Huelsebusch seconded. Motion passed with Ken Novak abstaining.

AGENDA 8. – POSAC/PUBLIC COMMENTS – Topics brought up for public comment included the possible Greenway along the South Branch of the Raritan and how a potential Farmland Preservation application would negatively affect the prospects of the Greenway coming to fruition.

AGENDA 9. – FREEHOLDER COMMENTS - NONE

AGENDA 10. - ADJOURN – Having no further business, Ken Novak made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Juergen Huelsebusch seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully prepared and submitted by: *Bill Millette*, March 20th, 2017.