



Hunterdon County Open Space Trust Fund Program

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

AGENDA 1. POSAC convened on Monday July 17th, 2017, at the Route 12 Hunterdon County Complex, Flemington, NJ. Jordan Guenther welcomed those in attendance and the meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: *H. JORDAN GUENTHER, KENNETH NOVAK, GERRY LYNESS, JUERGEN HUELSEBUSCH, SUZANNE WILDER (@7:26), DONALD BROUGHTON*

Excused: *EARLE STEEVES, BILL BOWLBY*

AGENDA 2. Approval of the May 15th, 2017 Meeting notes: Ken Novak made a motion to approve the minutes. Don Broughton seconded. Suzanne Wilder was not present for the vote.

AGENDA 3. Review/Final Recommendation Municipal Grant Applications

- **Clinton – Kaufelt Acquisition:** Staff presented the updated details of the Township’s application and request to fund a portion of the Kaufelt property acquisition. The previous application has been amended to reflect the full municipal grant balance. Ken Novak made a motion to approve. Juergen Huelsebusch seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Suzanne Wilder was not present for the vote.
- **Holland Township – Riegel Ridge improvement:** Staff gave an overview of the Township’s request to utilize their open space allocation to fund the replacement of the historic gymnasium floor in the Riegel Ridge Community Center. Ken Novak motioned to approve. Juergen Huelsebusch seconded. Motion passed. Suzanne Wilder was absent from the vote.
- **Flemington Borough - Samuel Fleming House improvement:** Staff presented the details of the Borough’s request to utilize a portion of their municipal open space grant balance to fund the repair and replacement of the deteriorated porch and front door of the Fleming House. Ken Novak made a motion to approve. Juergen Huelsebusch seconded. Motion passed. Suzanne Wilder was absent from the vote.
- **Readington Township – Lorenzen Acquisition:** Staff gave an overview of the Township’s application for a portion of their municipal grant balance to acquire the Lorenzen property. Ken Novak made a motion to approve the application. Don Broughton seconded. Juergen Huelsebusch recused from the vote.

AGENDA 4. Review/Final Recommendation Historic Preservation Grant Program Applications

Staff gave an overview of all applications received. The applications were as follows:

- **Holland Township – Riegel Ridge – window replacement**
- **East Amwell – Clawson House – interior restoration**
- **Chamber Foundation – Reading/Large House – interior/exterior restoration**

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- **High Bridge – Solitude House – roof replacement**
- **Hunterdon Land Trust – Dvoor Farm – Bank Barn roof replacement**
- **Red Mill Museum – Red Mill - Water wheel rehabilitation**

Staff reviewed the funding recommendations from the Cultural & Heritage Commission and outlined how it would impact each project's requests. Ken Novak made a motion to approve all historic grant applications at the funding levels recommended by the Cultural & Heritage Commission. Juergen Huelsebusch seconded. Motion passed.

AGENDA 5. Review/Final Recommendation Nonprofit Grant Program Applications

- Combined with Cooperative Grant discussion

AGENDA 6. Review/Final Recommendation Cooperative Grant Program Applications

Due to the connected nature of the requests received, all nonprofit and cooperative applications were discussed together

- Staff gave the Committee a brief overview of all applications:
 - Francavilla – D&R Greenway & Rartian Twp
 - Lindbergh Rd – D&R Greenway & East Amwell Twp
 - Pelio – NJCF & Lebanon Township
 - Pine Brook – Kingwood Twp
 - Reifinger – Bethlehem Twp & Hunterdon Land Trust

Staff then discussed the guidance received from the Freeholder Board regarding the potential use of additional funding. The Committee again discussed each project's qualities and contribution to the open space in the county. Additional informal polling was conducted to gauge the Committee's opinion on the funding scenario. Ken Novak made a motion to recommend approval for Bethlehem Township and Hunterdon Land Trust's applications for the Reifinger property and the two applications by D&R Greenway and East Amwell Township for the Lindbergh Road property, subject to the Board of Chosen Freeholders approving additional funding from prior year's unexpended grant program balances. Don Broughton seconded. Motion approved.

AGENDA 7. – PARKS OPERATIONAL

- Staff gave an update on all the various pending projects happening within the Parks System. Staff also presented for discussion the topic of locating additional sports fields on County parkland. County staff was approached by representatives of local sports groups requesting the County provide a location for additional sports fields with the local groups providing maintenance. The Committee directed staff to review options and report back to the Committee.

AGENDA 8. – NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS

- Eisenberger acquisition – Hunterdon Land Trust has requested that the County change its allocation percentage from a previously approved cooperative grant from 20% to approximately 30%. The certified market value is such that no additional funding allocation would be necessary due to a lower than anticipated cost share. Ken Novak made a motion to approve. Gerry Lyness seconded. Motion passed.
- Wescott House transfer – Staff gave an update as to the status of the transfer of the historic Wescott House to Delaware Township. Public hearings will be held to allow for public comment and to finalize the transfer.
- Green Acres award – Staff informed the Committee that the County was awarded \$700,000.00

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in Green Acres funding as part of the latest funding appropriation to use toward open space acquisition.

- Strategic Park Plan update – Staff relayed the latest information regarding the status of the draft Strategic Parks Plan. A draft should be available for review at the Committee’s next meeting.

AGENDA 9. – POSAC/PUBLIC COMMENTS – none

AGENDA 10. - ADJOURN – *Having no further business, Ken Novak motioned to adjourn. Donald Broughton seconded. Meeting adjourned.*

Respectfully prepared and submitted by: *Bill Millette*, September 18th, 2017.