



**PASSAIC COUNTY OPEN SPACE TRUST FUND
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, July 15th, 2021
WebEx Meeting**

Chair Anne Kahwaty opened the meeting at 6:31 PM and read the notice that the requirements of the Open Public Meeting Act had been met. She then proceeded to the roll call.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Anne Kahwaty, Chair; Maria-Elena Grant, Commissioner; Bhupendra Gadhavi, Commissioner; Sandy Lawson, Commissioner; Robin Canetti, Commissioner; Bernard Vroom, Commissioner; Laura Lee Harding, Commissioner (arriving at 6:39); Alice Szepietowski, Commissioner; Cindy Frank, Commissioner; Isabel Agudelo, Commissioner; Greg Moore (on behalf of Darryl Sparta, Parks Director); Nordan Murphy (on behalf of County Engineer Jonathan Pera); Assad Ahkter, County Commissioner

OTHERS PRESENT: Kelly Ruffel, Director of Cultural and Historic Affairs; Michael Lysicatos, Planning Director; John Pogorelec, County Counsel; Salvatore Presti, Assistant Planner

MINUTES: A motion to adopt the minutes of the May 20th, 2021 meeting was made by Commissioner Lawson and seconded by Commissioner Canetti. The motion passed unanimously with a minor adjustment to correct a typo with Kathleen Caren's name.

PUBLIC PORTION: Commissioner Lawson made a motion to open the meeting to the public which was seconded by Commissioner Vroom. The motion passed unanimously.

Seeing no one present, Commissioner Vroom made a motion to close the public portion that was seconded by Commissioner Lawson. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Planning Director Lysicatos provided an update on the Fall Grant Workshop. He stated that the department intends to work with Kelly Ruffel and the County Administration to examine the governing rules and make minor adjustments. This includes more guidelines on when applicants submit reporting, specifically having applicants submit reporting during the year. Staff is also looking to incorporate previously discussed guidelines on tree removal/replacement for new applicants. This will include having new applicants state if there will be tree removal as part of their project, and how they plan on mitigating the lost trees.

OLD BUSINESS

Chair Kahwaty asked Planning Director Lysicatos to elaborate on the tree replacement policy discussed at the last Open Space meeting. Planning Director Lysicatos stated that the policy would probably take the form of asking the applicant if they planned on removing any trees during the application process. If the applicant stated that they intended to, the application would

also ask how the applicant intends to mitigate that tree removal; which could either be the applicant replanting on site, or planting trees elsewhere in the municipality. Open Space Coordinator Jessie Summers would speak with applicants to discuss what would be the most appropriate option for mitigation.


Chair Kahwaty asked about a previously discussed item regarding pickleball facilities in Passaic County. Planning Director Lysicatos stated that pickleball facilities were present at the following locations:

- Little Falls Sports & Recreation Complex
- North Haledon Pickleball Courts
- Holster Park, Clifton
- Albion Park, Clifton
- Dudiak Park, Clifton
- Clifton plans to build courts at Dunney Park and Ravine Park
- Woodland Park is also planning to construct pickleball courts

OPEN DISCUSSION – None.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:49 PM was made by Commissioner Vroom and seconded by Commissioner Lawson. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Salvatore Presti for



JESSIE SUMMERS