

**Passaic County Open Space Advisory Committee
May 16th, 2024 Meeting**

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

1. Deputy County Administrator Marc Seemon
2. County Counsel Designee: John Pogorelec, Jr., Esq.
3. Department of Planning & Economic Development: Andras Holzmann
4. Department of Parks & Recreation Designee: Greg Moore
5. Department of Planning & Economic Development: Salvatore Presti
6. Department of Cultural & Historic Affairs: Isabella Costa
7. Chair Anne Kahwaty
8. Vice Chair Maria-Elena Grant
9. Bhupendra Gadhavi
10. Bernard Vroom III
11. Alice Szepietowski
12. Robin Canetti
13. Sandra Lawson
14. Isabel Agudelo

Members Absent:

15. County Commissioner Pat Lepore
16. Department of Cultural & Historic Affairs: Kelly Ruffel
17. Karen Agosto
18. Lauralee Harding

A roll call brought the meeting to order at 5:36 PM.

Kahwaty made the announcement of the Open Public Meeting Act.

A motion was made by Lawson and seconded by Vroom to open the public portion.

Motion passed unanimously. No members of the public were present.

A motion was made by Vroom and seconded by Lawson to close the public portion.

Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Vroom and seconded by Canetti to approve the minutes of the April 18th, 2024 meeting.

The motion passed unanimously.

Under New Business, Presti and Costa presented the funding recommendations for the 2024 Open Space and Historic Preservation program. After a discussion with the committee, several applicants were identified as candidates to potentially present their projects to the committee. Presti will request reporting information from each applicant and provide the responses to the committee. The committee will assess which candidates will be asked to present to the committee after reviewing the reporting information.

Under Old Business, no items were discussed.

Under Open Discussion, Lawson asked about the status of the Highlands Rail Trail project. Murphy replied that Phase II was still in design, and that he would inform the committee when the ribbon cutting date was determined for Phase I.

A motion was made by Canetti and seconded by Lawson to adjourn.

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:22 PM.

/ s / Salvatore Presti

Open Space Coordinator, Passaic County