



**Passaic County Open Space, Farmland and Historic Preservation
Trust Fund Advisory Committee Meeting
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, November 18th, 2020
WebEx Meeting**

Committee Chairwoman Grant opened the meeting at 6:30 PM and read the notice that the requirements of the Open Public Meeting Act had been met. He then proceeded to the roll call.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Assad Akhter, Freeholder; Maria-Elena Grant, Chair; Ann Kahwaty, Vice Chair; Kelly Ruffel, County Administrator; Greg Moore, Commissioner (on behalf of Darryl Sparta) ; Nordan Murphy, Commissioner (on behalf of Jonathan Pera); Isabel Agudelo, Commissioner; Cindy Frank, Commissioner; Bernard Vroom, Commissioner; Sandra Lawson, Commissioner; Bhupendra V. Gadhavi, Commissioner; Robin Canetti, Commissioner; Laura Lee Harding, Commissioner; Alice Szepietowski, Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT: Michael Lysicatos, Planning Director; John Pogorelec, County Counsel; Andras Holzmann, Supervising Planner; Salvatore Presti, Assistant Planner

Laura Harding was sworn in as a Commissioner by County Counsel John Pogorelec.

MINUTES: A motion to adopt the minutes of the October 29th, 2020 meeting was made by Commissioner Vroom and seconded by Commissioner Agudelo. The motion passed unanimously.

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

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

NEW BUSINESS

Assistant Planner Presti presented the following applications as a virtual site visit to the Committee. Follow-up questions and information requests from the Committee are noted under each application:

- Bloomington – Delazier Field Bathroom & Grandstand Rehabilitation
 - Commissioner Vroom stated that this project had already been funded by the committee once before, and that this phase was to finish the project.
- Clifton – Improvements at Oak Ridge Park
 - Commissioner Frank inquired about the fitness equipment indicated on the site plan. Staff responded that while the site plans did say “integrated with fitness

equipment”, staff saw no equipment on site, nor was it included in the provided narrative or line items. Staff also said they will follow up with Clifton for clarification.

- Clifton – Improvements at Dunney Park
 - Commissioner Frank asked if Clifton intends on replacing the trees it wishes to cut down. Staff responded that they would follow up with Clifton to ensure that trees are planted to replace the ones cut down.
- Community Association of the Highlands – Highlands Natural Pool Upgrade
 - No comments were made by committee members or staff.
- Friends of Paterson Parks – Roberto Clemente Park
 - No comments were made by committee members or staff.
- Haledon – Tilt Street Restrooms & Storage Facility
 - Commissioner Frank asked about the location of the of the restroom, specifically if the neighbors have complained about a restroom being installed. Staff responded that they have not received any complaints, but that they will check with Haledon to see if anyone from the public has issued a complaint. Commissioner Canetti asked if it was normal for applicants to apply multiple years for the same project. Staff responded that it is normal as the applicants often times phase projects and require time for bonding and construction bids. Commissioner Grant asked what would be stored at the site. Staff responded that the applicant did not specify, and that they would ask Haledon.
- Hawthorne – Bandshell Path Lighting
 - Commissioner Frank asked if the lights will be lit on a nightly basis, or only used during bandshell events. The question would be passed on to the applicant.
- Hawthorne – Bandshell Playground
 - Commissioner Frank asked if the applicant had indicated whether a path would be installed leading to the park. The question would be passed on to the applicant.
- Highlands Nature Friends – New Weis Center
 - Commissioner Canetti stated that many structures on the site have a historical significance. Commissioner Grant stated that this site was nearly lost several years ago, and that the volunteer group who took it over has worked very hard, and that she would like to see the applicant assisted.
- Little Falls – Wilmore Park Improvements
 - No comments were made by committee members or staff.
- North Haledon – High Mountain Playground Rehabilitation
 - No comments were made by committee members or staff.
- Passaic – 100 Steps Reconstruction Project
 - Planning Director Lysicatos mentioned that this project has local history and culture tied it, and that Passaic has tried to revive this project for many years. No comments were made by committee members.

- Paterson Habitat for Humanity – Clinton Street Park
 - No comments were made by committee members or staff.
- Pompton Lakes – Joe Grille Complex and Field
 - Commissioner Frank inquired how many trees would be removed for this site, and if the applicant had any intentions of replacing them. Staff responded that they will ask Pompton Lakes. Freeholder Akhter asked that during the next application round, a new field be added that asks applicants how many trees they wish to remove, and for staff to look into adding a requirement to the grant that requires applicants to replace any trees that were removed during the course of the project as an offset. Commissioner Vroom asked if the NJDEP had made any comments on the site since it is in a flood zone. Staff replied that the applicant had indicated that there are permits needed. Staff followed up that they will get an update from the applicant.
- Prospect Park – Hofstra Park Turf Field
 - Commissioner Vroom mentioned how this was a phased project that the board had seen before. Commissioner Grant asked that the staff follow up with Prospect Park to see if the proposed turf field will meet the criteria to host regulation games. Staff acknowledged the request. Commissioner Lee asked if the proposed paths will be ADA compliant. Staff responded that they will confirm with the applicant that the paths will be ADA compliant.
- Ringwood – Skyline Drive/Erskine Road Bike & Pedestrian Bridge
 - Commissioner Canetti asked the staff to follow up on some outstanding unexpended grants. Staff responded that they would. Planning Director Lysicatos mentioned that when this project is complete, it will be Ringwood’s responsibility to maintain the site, despite it being along a county road.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

CORRESPONDENCE – None.

RESOLUTIONS – None.

ADJOURNMENT: Commissioner Canetti made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 PM that was seconded by Commissioner Vroom. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Salvatore Presti for



MICHAEL LYSICATOS