

Andover Township
Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes
March 23, 2010

Chairperson Carla Kostelnik opened the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

The Chairman called for the flag salute, roll call, and read aloud the OPMA statement.

Present were OSC members Ed Burgio, Debbie Danielson, Diane Gillespie, Carla Kostelnik, and Michael Lensak. Christine Kretzmer arrived late at 7:58 p.m. Absent was Marc Gore. Also present were Sandy Uργο of TLC of NJ and Angela Thies, OSC secretary. Additionally, members of Andover Township's Recreation Committee were present for a joint meeting session with the OSC; OSC member Ed Burgio, who also serves on the Recreation Committee, sat as a Recreation Committee member during the joint meeting session.

Joint Session with Recreation Committee: A joint session was held between OSC members and Recreation Committee members for the purpose of discussing improvements needed to the Lake Iliff property and to formulate a plan to address responsibility of those improvements. Discussion included removal of an existing iron dock and possible construction of a new composite dock and/or boardwalk, as well as construction of a parking area to accommodate between 5-6 automobiles. The Rec Committee said that the DPW/road department would assume responsibility for placing gravel down for the parking lot, removing the old dock structure, and constructing a new dock and/or boardwalk. Sandy Uργο of TLC confirmed that grant funds for Open Space could be used for the proposed enhancements to the Lake Iliff property.

Discussion turned to how any enhancements would be financed. The Rec Committee noted that their budget was extremely low. Carla Kostelnik referenced a printout of the OSC budget, a copy of which had been provided to all OSC members prior to the meeting; it was noted that the available funds stood at \$130,000.

Ed Burgio said he would obtain at least two cost estimates for the purchase of a composite dock or boardwalk system. Sandy Uργο suggested Ed also contact Tim Clancy of the "Knee Deep Club" for insight into docking/fishing requirements, pointing out that different permits would be needed, depending on which way the committees leaned.

Discussion then turned to how the existing trails on the property could be enhanced. Ed Burgio said that fellow Rec Committee Member Mike Morales said he would donate his time and equipment to fixing the trails. Earlier estimates determined the cost for improvements would run around \$13,000+, but Ed remains confident that it can be accomplished for a lot less.

Prior to the close of the joint session, the committees discussed the success of fund-raising efforts in support of "Andover Day." There may be an opportunity between 4 and 4:30 pm that day to recognize the Lake Iliff acquisition.

At 8:10 p.m. the joint session adjourned; Ed Burgio excused himself from the OSC to join the Rec Committee's executive session in another room with the understanding he would return in a short while.

The Open Space Committee resumed its agenda.

Adoption of Minutes from January 26, 2010: A motion was made by Michael Lensak and seconded by Diane Gillespie to accept the minutes of Jan. 26, 2010. All in favor, motion carried.

Adoption of Agenda: A motion was made by Michael Lensak to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Debbie Danielson, all in favor, motion carried.

Open to the Public: The chair opened the meeting to the public, adopting a more "casual format" to allow for shared discourse on the various agenda items. (*Note: Ed Burgio returned to the OSC meeting sometime during public meeting discourse.*) Aside from Sandy Urgo, Dan Freed was present as a member of the public. Dan Freed proceeded to ask the committee if, in considering construction of a dock, liability concerns had been addressed. Liabilities had not been addressed, but Sandy Urgo addressed the need for permits, stating that a stream encroachment permit likely would be needed for a dock, or perhaps an individual permit, versus a wetlands permit to construct a boardwalk along the lake's edge. A report submitted earlier by Engineer Joe Golden also stated the need for an individual permit for a dock, which Sandy suggested might be more difficult to obtain. It was decided that Ed Burgio would meet with Joe Golden to discuss dock options, permit needs, and liability concerns.

Artificial Turf: Conversation turned to the option of using artificial turf for recreation fields. Sandy Urgo confirmed that Green Acres funding could be used for such **outdoor** recreation enhancements. Dan Freed questioned the expense involved in using artificial turf for rec fields, to which the chair responded that it was unlikely Andover would have the funds to dedicate to turf, but that the committee should be knowledgeable about the matter, should it arise. Sandy Urgo estimated the cost to artificially turf a football field to be between \$800,000 and \$1M.

Executive Session: Mike Lensak motioned to enter into executive session at 8:34 p.m., seconded by Christine Kretzmer, all in favor and so moved. The sole member of the public excused himself. Executive session was entered into for the purpose of discussing land acquisition opportunities and contracts with Sandy Urgo of TLCNJ.

The committee came out of executive session at 10 p.m. on a motion from Mike Lensak, seconded by Ed Burgio, and approved by all.

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Mike Lensak motioned that the committee request the Township approve (a) the formation of a “working sub-committee” to include use of the township engineer, and (b) funding for future property appraisals associated with a current prospective Open Space project/acquisition.

Adjournment: Michael Lensak motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 p.m., seconded by Diane Gillespie, and unanimously agreed, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Thies
Secretary, Open Space Committee