

BYRAM TOWNSHIP OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

MINUTES, February 23, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Chairman Ray Bonker, Scott Olson, Joe Sabatini, Michelle Rehse, Andy Kimm, Sandy Urgo of TLC, and Secretary Cindy Church.

Closed Session 7:30 p.m. (see separate minutes)

Open Session 8:04 p.m.

Approval of December 2014 minutes- Scott made a motion, which was seconded by Andy; all in favor to approve the December 2014 minutes.

Open Space Financial Report – Joe reported that there is \$236,872.88 in the local open space trust fund with \$76,872.88 available for spending after we pay out for Gamski and the TLCNJ contract. In the reserve for debt service there is \$402,300.51.

TLC Contract Approval – The Township Council approved the renewal of the TLC contract.

Re-Appointments – John Morytko and Ray Bonker were both re-appointed to the Open Space Committee by the Township Council.

Tamarack Park – Joe reported that Cory met with the DEP who was expecting to see retention basins installed at Tamarack Park. Cory is going to do some calculations to see if there is another way around this, if not, retention basins may need to be installed.

Forester Update - The Forest Management Draft Plan was reviewed and some minor corrections are needed. Joe will give this to Margaret to work on editing. Ray discussed the possibility of changing the deer hunt program to bring in more hunters. Cindy will contact the NJ Department of Agriculture to request a gypsy moth egg mass survey.

Environmental Commission Update – Michelle reported possible clean-up work dates that are being planned for Johnson Lake and Brookwood Park for Spring 2015. Scott reported that there is an Introduction to Trail Maintenance course being offered on Saturday, March 28, 2015 - 9:30am - 1:30pm at Salt Gastropub. This course covers an introduction to the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference and provides the skills necessary to maintain a hiking trail so it is easily passable and harmonious with its surroundings. Participants will learn assessment of trail conditions, clearing, blazing, proper use of tools and how to report any trail problems they may come across on their segment of trail.

Adjourn: 8:452 p.m. Motion by Scott.