

Borough of Watchung
Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting
May 19, 2014

Mrs. Beck-Clemens called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Present at the meeting were:

Beck-Clemens (X), Desnoyer (A), Jacques (A), Loboazzo (A), Schaefer (X), Stout (X), Tucker (A)

Minutes of September 16, 2013 were read and approved.

Committee Reports were introduced as follows:

Planning Board: Mrs. Schaefer spoke about the Getty Station closing and how the property would finish Spratford Park. The property is part of a lease package and it is unknown if it would be released from the package. More importantly, the property is contaminated and whoever would purchase would also be responsible for the cleanup, which could be very costly.

Historical: Mrs. Beck-Clemens stated that the committee has two new members, Lynn Stahl and Lynn Franklin. The Texier House is now open the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month from 2-4pm. September 27, 2014 will be Historical Day and the reenactment team will be back.

Recreation Committee: Mrs. Beck-Clemens stated that the committee has one new member, Mike Oruska. The tennis courts are done at they are in the midst of getting bids to place a raised playground at Mobus field so that it does not flood.

Environmental: Mr. Stout reported that due to heavy rain and flooding, the Queen of the Sun movie was not shown. It will be played sometime in June. He also stated that the tree ordinance is in front of legal for review.

Public Works: Mrs. Beck-Clemens told the committee that the rock wall behind the Public Works building is being addressed and may cost as much as \$900,000.00 to repair. The drainage around Mobus Field playground is being looked into. Camp Endeavor is being cleaned up with the fencing and debris all being removed and chips will then be placed. The fire Department is getting a generator and they are getting designs for renovations to the Bath and Kitchen. Future projects will be painting Borough Hall and the Texier House. The Ness property will have another building demolished. The barn will be professionally taken down and some of the wood will be used for benching, etc. There has been some remediation work done to the property and there is additional testing as to what other contaminants there can

be. Public Works is looking to the Open Space Committee for some suggestions for how the property can be passively used this year. One example would be "plot farming" such as Wagner Farms in Warren has.

Mrs. Beck-Clemens said that Warren Township has partnered with Somerset County in their Open Space parcels. She has requested a meeting with Patricia Walsh to discuss the same possibility with Watchung.

It was agreed by the committee that they would meet on an as needed basis.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.