

**POINT PLEASANT BOROUGH
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY SEPTEMBER 22, 2008
7:15 p.m. – 7:44:01 pm**

ATTENDEES:

Roger Pyrtko – Chairman/Council President

Richard Morris - Member

James Hoffmaster - Member

Ellie Milewski – Member

Joanne Goetting – Member

Greg Zyry - Member

Liz Hirschel – Committee Secretary

Also in attendance:

Judy Block

- Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

(Roger Pyrtko)

- Statement of the Chairperson

This regular meeting of the Open Space Advisory Committee was called to order by the Chairman/Chairperson and is held under the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act; please be advised that adequate notice of this meeting was provided to the public by posting of this notice in the Borough Hall and advertised in two newspapers, which are “The Ocean Star” and “The Observer”.

- Roll Call taken.

(Roger Pyrtko)

I think what we are going to end up doing and before you leave Liz, is if you could please make me a list of the members in attendance for all the meetings that took place this year, because I don't now about Scott Conklin if he has ever made a meeting at all, because I know he was an alternate and as far as Brian (McAlindin) I think he would probably want to stay on. So what I would like to see our alternates become members, so if you could get that list to me, we will be able to revise the membership and see where we stand...

(Liz Hirschel)

Absolutely, no problem I will get that to you right away.

(Various Members)

In the beginning Scott came to a few meetings, but then resigned.

(Roger Pyrtko)

OK, approval of the 6-23-2008 Minutes. Did everyone get a chance to review the minutes from the last meeting?

(Liz Hirschel)

Roger as you will see from the attendance list, we did not have enough people or members to even have a quorum, so there were no minutes taken at that meeting.

- **Committee Reports**

- Osborn Cemetery**

(Roger Pyrtko)

Greg approached me that the weeds were becoming overbearing and that the town does not spray pesticides so we had to get an outside company. Does anyone know how many treatments were done, and did anyone notice?

(Greg Zyry)

Well I know they killed the moths. They did a good job.

(Richard Morris)

Yeah, it definitely worked.

(Roger Pyrtko)

Good. I guess that came out of the general funds?

(Greg Zyry)

Yes, it was \$360.

(Roger Pyrtko)

And the Deed. I got a copy of the Deed signed by the Seller, but we don't have Dave Maffei(s) signature on it. Now do you think Fred has an original of that with him?

(Richard Morris)

I don't think he does, because Fred pretty much turned everything over to me, and said I want you to hold on to everything. So I pretty much know I have everything and it is a copy. But there is an original somewhere.

(Roger Pyrtko)

OK. So I will contact Dave tomorrow and I will make him a copy...

(Ellie Milewski)

I already gave him a copy.

(Roger Pyrtko)

You did? What was his reaction?

(Ellie Milewski)

He did not have a copy, and his secretary Maryanne called me to find out if we had the original? I explained to her that I did not and she asked me if I could fax it to her, which I did.

(Roger Pyrtko)

I guess he never saw it and it went directly to Jerry?

(Greg Zyry)

It took Jerry over a year to realize he didn't have this?

(Ellie Milewski)

He signed it October 2007.

(Grey Zyry)

I thought it was February?

(Roger Pyrtko)

Does Susan know about this?

(Ellie Milewski)

I spoke to her yesterday and yes she does. I scanned it to Susan, just like you got it.

(Roger Pyrtko)

So obviously due to the fact that we do not have a recorded Deed, which we are all assuming it hasn't because Dave didn't sign it, we do not have a fence yet,

(Greg Zyry)

Or stone....they haven't done anything yet.
(Roger Pyrtko)

So are they on hold?

(Richard Morris)

Well I turned everything I had over to Dave Maffei because I went back down to talk to John at Missing Link, and I said John this is what's going on, and he told me if they want me to I will buy the fencing that we need, I will store it down here and I will come over and just put in 2 sides and whatever else I can without having the other people move their fences and I thought we can't beat that offer and that they can pay me for what I ordered. And I talked to Dave Maffei he said it would be fine, so John filled out the paperwork, I went down and picked it up and dropped it off at Dave's office, and he said the reason I'm doing this is because the prices are going to go up drastically in another 10 days.

(Roger Pyrtko)

How long ago was this?

(Richard Morris)

About 1 month ago. So I never heard anything else about that and from what I heard nothing was ever done about that. And they didn't contact John to order the fence or anything, so I asked if it would be OK for me to go ahead with the bronze plaque and the stone that we ordered, and they said they would get the paperwork out to HT Hall for that.

(Roger Pyrtko)

Who said that?

(Richard Morris)

It was someone in Dave(s) office or Dave himself. It must have been Dave. I've been to his office so many times, I'm not sure.

(Roger Pyrtko)

Alright you know what, from here on obviously if you have a problem or if you feel you are not getting things done, give me a call let me know that's what I'm here for. I appreciate all the following up you've done, so I would like to stay on top of it to make sure things are getting done.

(Richard Morris)

The corrections people were back there working, and I didn't know they were coming because we didn't need them in the summer, and they said they tried to call me sometime

this morning, but I was not home. I believe they were supposed to go somewhere else and that didn't work out, so they came here.

(Roger Pyrtko)

What about the encroachment of the neighbor(s) fence? Jerry said 6 inches but you're telling me 6 ft? I know you sent me pictures, but I saw a survey, which I have here...

(Richard Morris)

The one fence is 6 ft on the one corner of it.

(Roger Pyrtko)

And he's like do you want me to pursue this for 6 inches? And I said no that's no big deal?

(Ellie Milewski)

Well, I know Jerry mailed out letter(s) to all the homeowner(s).

(Roger Pyrtko)

Well there is a discrepancy from what we have versus what the homeowner(s) have.

(Ellie Milewski)

I have copies of the letter.

(Greg Zyry)

Well one guy moved his shed and fence.

(Roger Pyrtko)

Oh yeah, they did that?

(James Hoffmaster)

One neighbor put up a new fence, and another neighbor put up a fence on one side.

(Richard Morris)

And then I went to Dave Maffei and I said OK 6 ft. We were originally going to keep the fence off 4 ft. off the property line, how about we keep that fence 6 ft. off the property line, it won't interfere with anything. Then we can fight for years over this fence if you want too, but we will have our fence up there. And he said well that would have to go back to Council for approval.

(Roger Pyrtko)

Who said this, Dave?

(Richard Morris)

Yes. To begin with I do not believe that Council knew we were going to keep it 4 ft. off the property line. But that was our plan. It's been very discouraging. You try to get up there to do something and you feel like your batting your head against the wall.

(Roger Pyrtko)

Well, all right we will start taking care of it.

(Richard Morris)

At the last meeting that we didn't have before the summer break, I asked for some volunteers to maybe come up and I got one call from Dawn Wagner a couple of days later and she said she would come up and bring her kids.

(Roger Pyrtko)

For what?

(Richard Morris)

To pick up rocks and bricks that are laying around while we are working around there.

(Roger Pyrtko)

Is there still work to be done out there now? Well let's get the corrections people out there.

(Richard Morris)

Oh there's plenty of work to do. That's what they were there for today and hey have a pile of stuff ready to be picked up.

- **Canal Walk**

(Roger Pyrtko)

We have to get this one going again.

(Greg Zyry)

I talked to Beth Landers who is Leah's assistant today about what we plan to do and I know that we have some money to start this project, I believe Susan said we have a trails grant and about \$10,000 from another source.

(Ellie Milewski)

I have it here and it says "pending trails grant \$25,000".

(Greg Zyry)

So, I know we have some money to start doing something with it.

(Roger Pyrtko)

Who is spear heading this project? We need to put someone in charge of this. I think we need a Council Member.

(Greg Zyry)

I was on it, but it just seemed to have died. However, I took some pictures of one that was completed in Keyport. They did a walk along the bay that turned out beautiful. They did a real nice job on that one. So if anyone is in Keyport, you should take a look at it.

- **Budget**

(Roger Pyrtko)

Are we on budget, under budget, over budget? I guess we have money in our budget, we just got saying we got \$10,000.

(Greg Zyry)

It's got to be about \$60,000. I think money was taken out for a field restoration project?

(Joanne Goetting)

I believe it's more like \$113,000. And what do you mean they took money out for the field?

(Judy Block)

Yeah, they take it out of Open Space.

(Joanne Goetting)

Oh. OK.

(Unintelligible conversation between all Members)

(Roger Pyrtko)

We need some kind of an accounting. So, if someone could email me a copy of the Budget that would be great.

(Greg Zyry)

I think we should get that Park going. We can get it done in stages. It doesn't have to be done all at once.

(Roger Pyrtko)

Again, we need someone to spear head that and to get in contact with and get the blessing of the Army Corp. of Engineers. I think we spent \$12,000 to have Leah develop the plans in order for us to qualify for the grants.

(Ellie Milewski)

Yeah, she called me the other day. And she is almost done.

(Greg Zyry)

She said there is funding available right now, but not like there use to be. But we could probably get some Green Acres funding.

(Roger Pyrtko)

So you are saying that we have approximately \$113,000 you said?

- **Dead End Paper Streets**

(Ellie Milewski)

I got a call from Beth Landers who is Leah's assistant about Dead Ends, and she had a couple of questions about the Dead Ends over along Bradley and Sinclair. She wanted to know about the paths and right of way's along there and who they belong to. Because it's so narrow walking between the houses on those foot paths, but I do know that the people around there do take care of them. That's all she wanted to know, so she could put everything together for the master plan.

- **Open Space Plan**

(Roger Pyrtko & Ellie Milewski)

This is the same thing.....

- **New Business**

Is there any property we want to....well I guess if I'm hearing everything right, the money that we have collected is going to go towards Canal Walk to accomplish something....am I right or am I wrong?

(Joanne Goetting & Ellie Milewski)

Where are we going to start?

(Roger Pyrtko)

Do you know where Straighter's Yacht Sail is? That is Bay Ave. and Canal Drive and at the end there is a piece of property that the town owns where we could make it a fishing spot. In fact, when I first came on Council, Fred Bryant got up and said that the property was donated along with \$10,000 to improve it, and I wanted to make it a fishing spot and have a Boy Scouts or Eagle Scouts project. Then there is a cut inside like a boat slip but it's rotted and it has to be bulk headed off and here again here comes the Army Corp. of Engineers, so we can't do anything without their blessing along with the State, because I believe this is Federal property and again this is where Chris Smith comes in. Right, so it's a matter of getting someone on Council or anyone to spear head it and get it going again. And as much work as you put into the Cemetery project this is what we need to do with this project, so we can take the reins on this to get this going. Who did you say was heading this?

(Greg Zyry)

Brian....He took all the prints and everything

Roger Pyrtko)

So, I will talk to him tomorrow and I will find out his intentions, because even though he sits on Council and the Committee, he could still spear head it, but if he says he's inundated we will have to find someone who has the time, or maybe a sub-committee to do that. I think maybe that is what we need....because I do not think one person can do it.

(Richard Morris)

I don't think so. Just making contacts is a big deal

(Roger Pyrtko)

I said that we need to remove the old bulk head, because it's steel along the canal but in that insert, it's wood and let's remove it and make it a beach or a boat ramp.

(Greg Zyry)

You won't be able to do that. You can't launch your boat from there.

(Unintelligible conversation between all Members)

(Roger Pyrtko)

You know what I was thinking about? How high do you think the fence will be? I think its about 3 ft along the canal there, so if we put a walkway there, what do you think the liability is going to be on us and what do you think the Army Corp. of Engineers is going to say about that, if we are inviting the public to walk along there?

(Joanne Goetting)

Your liability right now or their liability isn't very good. You can fall right into there. Any kid could fall in there as well. It's a major liability.

(Roger Pyrtko)

Are you talking about the east side or west side? The west side on Brookster I know where it's undermining in a few spots, and they are filling it in.

(James Hoffmaster)

You get down by the hospital and in some areas it's less than 3 ft. It's a major hazard.

(Joanne Goetting)

It's a huge liability. The other day I had to tell some kids to get out of there. I was so scared and I asked them to leave. Anything will be better than what is there now.

(Roger Pyrtko)

In closing Liz, do you have everyone's email address?

(Liz Hirschel)

Yes and for those I do not, I mail them correspondence.

(Roger Pyrtko)

So, if you could please get me a list of the attendance for all our meetings, I would like to take a look at who is committed to come. OK. Anything else under new business?

(Ellie Milewski)

Does anybody know when they bought the parking lot at Risdens? Did they use their Open Space money to buy that?

(James Hoffmaster)

I don't think they did.

(Roger Pyrtko)

OK. So if there is no new business, may I have a Motion to Adjourn please...?

(Greg Zyry)

Motion to Adjourn.

(Joanne Goetting)

Second

(Roger Pyrtko)

All in favor?

(All Members)

I.....