

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Tenafly Environmental Commission**  
**Municipal Center**  
**August 18 2011**

**Present**

Dave Cavilla, Bob Beutel, Eileen Pleva, Joe Lavin & Jon Warme

**Guests**

Mark Feldman

Eileen Pleva called the meeting to order at 8:06 p.m.

There was not a quorum at this meeting

**New Business**

Eileen attended the prior Mayor and Council meeting and discussed the open space fund. The M&C discussed putting a hold on the fund for two years.

Mark Feldman explained that the M&C would like to freeze collection of the Open Space Fund for two years but in compromise will extend the funds ten year term by an equal number of years. At this time the fund is set to run for ten years, commenced in 2005 and due to end in 2015. With the extension the plan will run until 2017. Mark was concerned that some of the local commissions (eg. TEC & Historical Preservation) may view this two year hiatus negatively. However, he explained the fund currently has 1.8 million dollars on hand and Tenafly could always seek a loan as it has good credit and relatively low debt. The two year tax freeze would equate to an average savings of \$70 per household per year. Mark also mentioned that residents should be made aware of numerous other open space opportunities such as Overpeck and Van Saun Park.

**Sustainable NJ**

Bob explained he has sent all of the application in to the State for their review.

**Environmental Resource Inventory**

Eileen met with the consultant on August 16<sup>th</sup> to review the document and that there are a few changes that need to be made. She felt that the inventory was well put together and a good value for the money. A copy of the draft is available on the Tenafly Website. Once the draft is revised it will need to be submitted to the Planning Board so they can incorporate into the town master plan.

**Website**

Eileen mentioned she has a local Middle School student well versed in web design who has volunteered to rework the TEC site.

**Newsletter**

Nina is working on an article for the Borough Newsletter on composting of leaves.

**Solar**

At a recent M&C meeting, solar was discussed and has been delegated to the Borough Administrator for review and discussion of cost.

### **Leaf Blower Ban**

Eileen spoke before the M&C on behalf of the TEC and presented the views discussed in the letter previously presented to them.

### **County Open Space Trust**

Bob has applied for funds to cover the part of the cost of resurfacing the municipal basketball courts & tennis court fences. The grant will provide \$100,000 which Tenafly will match.

### **Fall Forum**

The TEC will coordinate with the Tenafly Nature Center a “Tenafly Walk” and “Wildlife in Tenafly” presentation.

### **Tree Planting**

Bob explained the DPW is gearing up for a fall tree planting which will include about 20 new trees. Eileen asked if the town could focus attention on the downtown industrial area.

### **Historical Preservation Commission**

The HPC asked the TEC to consider comment on the installation of a roofed pavilion in the Huyler Park. Their concern was that it might block the view of the train station. Jon asked whether this issue should be of concern for the TEC.

### **Correspondence**

There was no correspondence to be discussed

Meeting was adjourned at 8.47PM

Respectfully submitted by David Cavilla