

**Watershed Management Area 4
Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes**

**February 19, 2001
Page 1 of 1**

Attendees: Chris Statile, Borough of Hillsdale; Minna Greenberg, LWV-Bergen County; Joan Coan, Ridgewood LWV; Pat Rector, NJDEP; Jim Hall, PIPC; Peter TerLouw, PRC Jeff Hartke, Ridgewood Planning; Peter Wepler, NJDWSC; Pat Mancuso, NJDWSC;

The meeting was called to order at 2:50 PM.

The minutes were approved with three changes.

Rector opened the meeting with the following NJDEP concerns:

- Lack of Chairperson
- Lack of an agenda, related to no chairperson
- Participation – Not enough people coming, potential change of meeting site and time.
 - Rector’s Supervisor stated that the NJDEP cannot accept Open Space Criteria with only one person attending meetings
 - Hall responded that level or participation in one WMA Open Space Committee meeting cannot be compared to another WMA. For example, WMA 4, compared to other WMAs, has little available open space opportunities, therefore might not be as high of a priority as other concerns equating to the amount of participants in a meeting. Hall asked what is an acceptable number of participants. 3? 5? 10? The group concurred that this is a viable reason.
 - Advertise meetings on the WMA 4 List Serve
 - Per the Grant Agreement with NJWSC - any Open Space Acquisition cannot occur with out the Visioning Process is completed.
 - Recommended that the OSC forward the Criteria to the PAC with the explanation that it was taken from an example from another WMA.
 - Check with Farr regarding the original Open Space Membership List.

Statile asked what is the OSC for. Rector responded that it is a sub-committee of the PAC and its charge is to prioritize lands for acquisition within WMA 4. Statile responded where is the funding coming from. NJDEP? Rector responded that the PAC is presently looking for funds via the Alternate Funding Committee. Statile asked if any funds would be taken from the Bergen County Open Space account. TerLouw explained that the WMA 4 Open Space prioritization will focus on water supply/habitat related issues and Bergen County would use the information to help focus the County’s acquisition plans. (Bergen County has not identified what potential open spaces are significant). Statile asked where does the Countywide parcel map fit in this process. The existing County Open Space mapping effort is concentrating on publicly owned open space and vacant lands.

Hartge stated that he has a working copy of Ridgewood’s Aerial Maps with tax maps. He stated that someone must coordinate the State, County and local open space efforts to make it more streamlined.

Coan asked Hall what is the status of the letter that was sent out to municipalities requesting information about open space, ordinances and any data available digitally. Hall responded that no information has been received yet. Statile stated that each municipality’s Master Plan should have this information and that the OSC should contact the Professional Planners (who did the work for each town) directly.

Hall re-emphasized that the in this WMA, open space is not a hot topic and meeting attendance reflects that.

Greenberg asked, “Are we working towards something that has no reward?” Rector responded, “I would like to think not”.

Open Space Criteria:

**Watershed Management Area 4
Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes**

**February 19, 2001
Page 2 of 2**

Hall and TerLouw presented the Preliminary Mapping Analysis using the draft criteria (Allendale, Saddle River and Waldwick). All in Arc View Spatial Analyst.

- Maximum Criteria Points for this exercise was 39 points.
- Recharge Areas and steep slopes were not included in this analysis.
- Stream buffers – Cat II streams only data available
- Wetlands – used landscape project
- Conservation – Landscape project and Natural Heritage Database
- Floodplain – FEMA information

Rector stated the NJGS has recharge area information available and NJDEP had Brownfield Data coverages (Known contaminated sites within certain population density).

Rector acknowledged that Hall and TerLouw are the most knowledgeable in Open Space issues and data needs. She also recommended that the PAC devote 20 minutes just to Open Space and the need to recruit more participants.

Potential Agenda Items for Next Meeting:

- Refining Maps
- Zoning and Model Ordinances
- PAC update – Urge more participation
- Discussion on Basic GIS techniques, principles and uses [319(h) Pre-proposals now must include products in digital and GIS format].

Hartge stated this is his last day representing Ridgewood. A replacement will be coming to the upcoming meetings.

Statile recommends that WMA 4 representatives attend the monthly Mayor's Breakfast to circulate our concerns and needs.

Rector would like the Agenda sent out early if possible.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 PM.

Handouts:

January meeting minutes

Working Draft Maps showing how the ranking criteria is presented

Ridgewood provided a CD with Aerial Maps/Tax Maps to Hall

Action Items:

Elect a committee Chair