

**MINUTES OF THE PENNINGTON OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE MEETING  
PENNINGTON BOROUGH HALL: 7:30PM; JANUARY 21, 2026**

*This open meeting was adequately noticed on the Borough website and in the local newspaper.*

**In attendance:** Voting and Alternate Members:

Alan Hershey (Chairman), Present

Jason Meyer, Absent

Dan Pace (Secretary), Present

Arthur Firestone (Alternate 1), Present

John Jackson, Vice-Chairman, Present

Mark Blackwell: Excused

Kit Chandler: Boro Council Liaison, Present

Nancy Fishman, Present

Mark Neary (Alternate 2), Present

Guests: None; Chairman Hershey called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

**Agenda Items:**

**Meeting Minutes of November 19, 2025 Adoption:** Mark moved that the Open session meeting minutes be adopted as presented, Nancy seconded. Members currently present and in attendance at the November meeting unanimously approved the minutes.

**Formal Adoption of Officers:** Upon a motion by Mark, seconded by John, the Committee unanimously memorialized the officers elected for 2026 at the November 19, 2025 meeting. They were Alan Hershey as Chair, John Jackson as vice-chair, and Dan Pace as Secretary.

**Review of Updated Assessment Criteria for Properties of Interest:** Committee members had no additional comments regarding revisions to two of the Committees working documents that were discussed, revised, and formally adopted as described in the minutes of that meeting.  
Document 1: "Property Assessment" definitions: Document 2: "Approach to Preservation "Recommendations":

**Meeting Schedule for 2026:** Members reviewed and re-opened for discussion the in-person meeting dates adopted at the November 2025 meeting. They were January 21, March 18, May 20, September 16, and November 18. Alan suggested that the Committee continue to meet in person but ask the Boro to also provide a Zoom link in the event of weather or some other reason a member may need to Zoom. Members agreed and Dan will reach out to the Boro Clerk for advice on how to proceed.

**Open Space Trust Fund Status:** Alan circulated copies of a Boro report on the status of the Trust Fund. The fund has a substantial balance and is being used by the Boro to pay for important activities like deer management, Arboretum, and park improvements or maintenance. Kit suggested that for those activities, the appropriate entities develop a budget to share with the Open Space Committee. Members agreed that this would be a good document for those entities to provide the Committee.

**Other Business:** Nancy commented that the Environmental Commission on Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> will be having another Zoom "Community Conversation" on stormwater planning with special attention to personal yard space.

**Closed Session:** At 7:55pm on a motion by Art and seconded by Nancy, the Committee unanimously agreed to enter into Closed Session to discuss matters concerning specific properties of interest.

The Committee adjourned the Closed and Open Public Meeting at 8:55pm pursuant to a motion by Dan, seconded by Nancy, and unanimously approved. This followed a motion by Mark, seconded by John, to adopt the November 19<sup>th</sup> Closed Session Minutes reviewed during this evening's closed session.

Minutes taken by the Secretary,  
Daniel Pace

Minutes Adopted: March 18, 2026