

Borough of Hightstown Environmental Commission

Environmental Commission Meeting

Meeting Date/Time: June 24th 2014 / 7:00 PM
Meeting Location: Community Room
Hightstown Housing Authority
Attendees: Barbara Jones
Yan Troizier
Gary Grubb
David Zaiser (STO)
Terry Parliaros
Donna LePrevost
Keith LePrevost
Joan McGee- Stony Brook Millstone Watershed
Rob Thibult, Council Liaison

Public

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by the Chair, Barbara Jones

The Chair announced that the meeting conformed to the Open Meetings Act having its date, time and location advertised in the Borough newspapers of record.

Discussion Summary:

1.0 Agenda Approval

1.1 Yan motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by David.
Approved.

2.0 Approval of Minutes for meeting of the April 23rd meeting.

2.1 Barbara motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Donna.
Approved.

3.0 Shade Tree

3.1 105 Center street has a dead redbud.

3.2 The trees in the Stockton Street Historic District that were under warranty have been replaced.

3.3 The new trees along Westerly have been installed after the paving work.

3.4 Discussion regarding the large evergreen near the fire house.

- Barbara is concerned we need to address the number of large trees that are being removed in the borough and replaced by smaller, ornamental trees or shrubs. This replacement does not have the same carbon impact. We need to bring focus

and attention to this, perhaps at the harvest fair. Staff training for our public work employees is needed also.

4.0 Parks and Recreation.

4.1 Various tree work is being done around town.

4.2 The community gardens are doing well, we have 14 gardeners this year participating.

4.3 The parking area on Bank Street will be redone when finings are available from road work.

5.0 High School Liaison

6.0 Sustainable Jersey

6.1 Keith gave an update on the status. The application is being reviewed and we will have an idea early in July as to how many points we have achieved and have new comments to address on the balance of our submitted items.

7.0 Chair Updates

7.1 Gary and Barbara have been working with the Peddie School on completing the greenway bridge to East Windsor. Mayor Mironov is not responding to Peddie or Barbara. Gary will reach out to Cappie Stults to see if he can get through to her.

7.2 Peddle boats- need to caution riders to be careful of the swimmers.

8.0 Rug Mill and Lake update

8.1 Joan discussed the current situation with the testing on the lake and stream. There is a problem with Coliform bacteria in one section of the lake that has not been diagnosed or explored. Rob will follow up with Biff and Kenny to scope that sewer line and diagnose.

8.2 There are 13 monitoring wells on the rug mill site, but no one has ever tested the stream. Joan has set up testing that will start this summer.

8.3 Joan cautioned that any development or concepts for that site should consider the extent of the pollution on the site. From her experience, residential development could be very difficult given the level of toxins.

9.0 Other business

9.1 Eagle Scout Project.

- Keith will draft a letter denying support for the project. The EC feels the project does not meet the needs, lacks focus, depth and quality desired in town. Harold will draft a list of acceptable Eagle Scout level projects.
- Harvest Fair is in October- we need to begin to address and come up with a theme for our table.
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Meeting was adjourned at 8:58PM.

The next meeting will be July 22, at 7:00 PM at the Housing Authority Meeting Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allen Keith LePrevost

July 7, 2014

Distribution: Environmental Commission, Borough Clerk