

Borough of Hightstown Environmental Commission

Environmental Commission Meeting

Meeting Date/Time: March 25, 2014 / 7:00 PM
Meeting Location: Community Room
Hightstown Housing Authority
Attendees: Barbara Jones
Yan Troizier (Vice-Chair)
Gary Grubb
David Zaiser (STO)

Donna LePrevost
Keith LePrevost
Gail Doran, Council Liaison

High School Liaison

Public Elizabeth and Janine Lanphear

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 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 David motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Gary.
Approved.

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

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

Presentation: Elizabeth Lanphear, Girl Scout

- Elizabeth has come up with a project for her senior level Girl Scout award. She would like to conduct a tree survey of the parks in Hightstown. She would work together with the EC and other Girl Scout volunteers. David will assist in training and educating the group to identify, determine size and condition of each tree. Barbara thinks it would be beneficial to create a booklet from this project that would be available on the website. The project will start this spring and finish this summer. Her next step is seeking approval from the Girl Scouts. She will be in touch. The commission is in favor of the project and will assist as needed.

3.0 Shade Tree

3.1 There are two issues to address:

- One London Plain tree on Hutchinson needs to be removed. It is over top of the water line and the service cannot be accessed.
- 142 Broad Street. A Norway maple tree has upper limb damage. We will need to evaluate it in the spring when it comes out.

3.2 We received our State Approval of our CEU's

3.3 Tree Planting- Redbud or River Birch in Memorial Park on April 5th.

3.4 David will work with Ryan Rosenberg to determine placement of new Oak trees on Oak Lane and Lincoln.

4.0 Parks and Recreation.

4.1 Gary discussed his ideas for the pipes to hold down the walkways in Rocky Brook Park. He will work with Kenny to clean out the trail area and bring down the balance of the walkway pieces. Gary will also look into cleaning out the trees that has fallen into the brook over the winter.

5.0 Sustainable Jersey

5.1 Keith discussed the progress he is making on the application. He has met with the Planning board on several issues, working on Farmers Market, recycling, a new Fleet Inventory, animal welfare committee and several other issues. He has gotten several people and organizations involved to help get this done. We will submit this year, with the goal of gaining points, with the goal of Silver certification in 2015.

6.0 ANJEC Workshops

6.1 Donna and Keith attended the March 15th ANJEC presentation on "Developing Effective Environmental Commissions" It was held at the Plainsboro Audubon preserve. Very good ½ day program.

7.0 ANJEC Grant Status.

7.1 Keith has completed the ANJEC grant for the identification and tagging of the plants and trees along the greenway in Rocky Brook Park. The grant will be filed this week. The deadline is April 5th.

8.0 Other business

- 8.1 Shredding Event on April 26th is on track. Borough will pay for this event.
- 8.2 Snow removal, the EC will need to take an active role in helping Public Works make good choices when it comes to snow placement next winter.
- 8.3 Peddie School and the bridge. Barbara and Gary will make it a point next month of getting over to Peddie an meeting with someone that can move the project along.
- 8.4 Gail commented that Terry has done so much for the EC and the town, he is being celebrated at the Better Beginnings Shining Star Gala. It would be nice if we all were there to support him and this great cause. It is Saturday, May 3rd and the cost is \$75 dollars per ticket.
 - A. We are in full budget mode in the Borough. Please come out and speak up- resident involvement is important and Council does listen.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:08PM.

The next meeting will be April 22nd, 2014 at 7:00 PM at the Housing Authority Meeting Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allen Keith LePrevost

April 1, 2014

Distribution: Environmental Commission, Borough Clerk