

# **Borough of Hightstown Environmental Commission**

## **Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date/Time: 28 April 2015 / 7:00 PM  
Meeting Location: Meeting Room  
Masonic Lodge  
Attendees: Barbara Jones (Chair)  
Gary Grubb  
Joanna Jackson  
Joshua Jackson  
Steve Misiura (Council Liaison)  
Harold Mulleavey (Planning Liaison)  
Yan Troizier  
David Zaiser (STO)  
Mayor Quattrone

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Chair, Barbara Jones

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

### **Discussion Summary:**

- 1.0 Agenda Approval.** Moved by David Zaiser, seconded by Barbara Jones. Unanimously accepted.
- 2.0 Approval of Minutes.** Moved by David Zaiser, seconded by Harold Mulleavey. Unanimously accepted.
- 3.0 New Members.** Commission welcomed new members Joanne and Josh Jackson who were sworn in by Mayor Quattrone.
- 4.0 Shade Tree Matters**
  - 4.1 204 Maxwell Avenue. Shade Tree Official recommended the removal of two maple trees located in the ROW in front of this address after these were identified by the DPW as being in poor condition. DPW will attempt to have the trees removed by the utility's tree vendor.
  - 4.2 105 Center Street. Resident at this address called to note that the tree that had been recommended for removal nearly one year ago had not yet been removed. Mr. Grubb will review conditions and will remove the tree if feasible.
  - 4.3 Bank Street Tree Removals. STO was unaware of tree removals along Bank Street and will look into how they were accomplished without STO acceptance.
- 5.0 Parks and Recreation Liaison**
  - 5.1 Community Garden. DPW installed hose bib adjacent to garden. Valve still needs lock. All lots in garden are taken.
- 6.0 Environmental Fair at St. Anthony's Catholic Church**
  - 6.1 Environmental Commission Display. Harold Mulleavey represented the EC and distributed coloring books and brochures. Mr. Mulleavey reported that the Fair was well-attended.

## **7.0 Arbor Day Event**

- 7.1 Arbor Day Ceremony. In celebration of Arbor Day, on April 18<sup>th</sup> the EC planted a tree where one was removed last year on Main Street in front of the Municipal lot adjacent to Tavern on the Lake. Some members of Council attended.
- 7.2 Tree Pruning Clinic. Four members of the EC attended a tree pruning clinic led by Tree Expert, Kevin Scibilia. Attendees agreed it was very worthwhile and that the clinic should be held for DPW staff as well. The clinic satisfies a full year of continuing education units for the EC in 2015.

## **8.0 Fundraisers and Grants**

- 8.1 No current RFP's.

## **9.0 Upcoming Events**

- 9.1 ANJEC Stream Daylighting Seminar to be held on May 19<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 – 9:30 PM at the Hamilton Township Training Center.
- 9.2 Sustainable Raritan River Conference to be held at the Bloustein School in New Brunswick on June 12<sup>th</sup>.

## **10.0 Project Submissions**

- 10.1 Grant / Park / Hutchinson Sidewalk Project. Resubmitted plans had been revised to relocate the sidewalk on Hutchinson near Lincoln to be adjacent to the curb leaving no space within the ROW for street trees. The EC bemoaned the process that did not allow reasonable objections to the plans to be heard in time to affect final designs.

## **11.0 Classic Town Survey**

- 11.1 Classic Town Survey had been previously distributed. Chair will alert EC to those questions that should be answered by the EC.

## **12.0 Budget Appropriation**

- 12.1 EC Budget Increase. Budget was increased by \$300, but EC must continue to manage the paddle boats on Friday evenings to continue to be fiscally prudent.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:16 PM.

The next meeting will be 26 May 2015, at 7:30 PM at the Masonic Lodge

Respectfully Submitted,



David Zaiser

6 May 2015

Distribution: Environmental Commission, Borough Clerk