

Borough of Hightstown Environmental Commission

Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date/Time: 26 May 2015 // 7:00 PM
Meeting Location: Meeting Room
Masonic Lodge
Attendees: Barbara Jones (Chair)
Gary Grubb
Joanna Jackson
Joshua Jackson
Steve Misiura (Council Liaison)
Yan Troizier
David Zaiser (STO)
Public: Sandra Johnson, 301 Lincoln Ave.

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 Yan Troizier, unanimously accepted.
- 2.0 Approval of Minutes.** Corrections: Revised time to 7:00PM, added Yan Troizier to attendees and corrected spelling for Joanna Jackson. Moved to approve as corrected by Barbara Jones, seconded by Joshua Jackson. Unanimously accepted.
- 3.0 Shade Tree Matters**
 - 3.1 No matters to report.
- 4.0 Parks and Recreation Liaison**
 - 4.1 Community Garden. Gardening is underway.
- 5.0 Fundraisers and Grants**
 - 5.1 No current RFP's.
- 6.0 Upcoming Events**
 - 6.1 ANJEC Stream Daylighting Seminar was held on May 19th, but no member of the commission was able to attend.
 - 6.2 Sustainable Raritan River Conference to be held at the Bloustein School in New Brunswick on June 12th.
- 7.0 Project Submissions**
 - 7.1 Grant / Park / Hutchinson Sidewalk Project. Ms. Johnson reported that plant materials on her property (corner of Hutchinson and Lincoln) were damaged by recent removal of the Borough trees along Hutchinson. Commission recommended that Ms. Johnson make any claims with the Borough for damage to her plant materials. Ms. Johnson stated that her property value was negatively impacted by the removal of Borough trees as part of the sidewalk project and asked that the Borough install new trees on her property. The Commission stated

that Borough funds could not be used to purchase trees to be installed on private property, but that the Commission was compassionate to her plea and would look for private funding for new trees that could be installed on Ms. Johnson's property.

- 7.2 Returned Plans. Mr. Zaiser stated that since the last meeting, plans were returned to the Borough Engineer marked-up for the species and location of 31 new trees in the project area (13 removals are documented as part of the project).

8.0 Classic Town Survey

- 8.1 Classic Town Survey had been previously distributed. Comments required by 1 June.

9.0 ANJEC Dues

- 9.1 Dues Paid. There was a mix-up in invoicing, but Chair reported that dues were recently paid.

10.0 Stormwater Management Ordinance Reviews

- 10.1 135-137 N. Academy. Trees have not been replaced as had been agreed to as part of the negotiation for the increased impervious paving installed by the homeowner. Mr. Troizier will speak with the homeowner about securing the three (3) new trees.

11.0 Paddle Boats

- 11.1 Paddle Boat Management. Chair reminded Commission that Paddle Boat rentals will begin soon. The Commission collects funds raised by the Paddle Boat rentals. Chair will bring sign-up to next meeting.

12.0 Culvert Modifications

- 12.1 Culvert at Maxwell and Franklin. The existing culvert will be replaced with a culvert of a different configuration, though not of an increased size. To be discussed at Council Meeting of 1 June 2015.

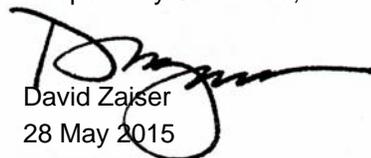
13.0 Commercial Recycling

- 13.1 Improved Recycling Program. Concerns were raised that commercial establishments may not be recycling to the fullest extent. Ms. Jackson will review conditions and report back to Commission at the next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:47 PM.

The next meeting will be 23 June 2015, at 7:00 PM at the Masonic Lodge

Respectfully Submitted,



David Zaiser
28 May 2015

Distribution: Environmental Commission, Borough Clerk