

# Hightstown Environmental Commission

## Minutes for 10/28/08 Meeting

**Date:** October 28, 2008  
**Time:** 7:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Borough Hall  
**Present:** Mellany Alio, Paul Bryne, Veronica Furman, Gary Grubb, Barbara Jones, Yan Troizer, and Dave Zaiser,

- The meeting was called to order by Barbara Jones
- Compliance with the Open Meetings Act was noted
- September's minutes were reviewed and approved
- Agenda was reviewed and approved

### **Shade Tree Issues-**

- Tree Grates – Borough purchased grates and funds will be taken from the EC budget. Many thanks to Ryan who was kind enough to donate his salary to the budget. While the grates have been purchased, they have not yet been installed.
- Dead tree at 139 Center Street. Other calls concerning trees have been investigated and it has been determined that these trees are not problematic.
- Boy scouts have done a tree inventory – this info will need to be put into a database which will assist us in prioritizing trees for removal
- Sponsorship – Group discussed sponsorship of trees, decided against plaques under trees. David Z. will talk to Candice about a wall of removable plaques in borough hall.

### **Clean & Green Team Project**

- Gary and Yan pruned trees on clean up day. Together, they pruned about 20 trees. They will continue with the pruning. In addition, they also planted some beautiful and hardy pansies around the fountain. All who saw their work agreed it looked great!
- Cleanup was a success –10 to 12 volunteers removed about 20 bags of garbage

### **Web page**

- Veronica will meet with teachers on this issue. She is trying to recruit volunteers. Current goal is to have a viable web page in one year. Group discussed uses for web page (photos, columns, FAQs, recipes, etc.)

### **Hightstown Harvest Fair**

- Master Gardeners were a hit – we should use them again in the future
- Resident suggested a butterfly garden be planted
- Fair committee was pleased with our table
- All will urge people to vote for the coloring book contest. Barbara and Mellany posted covers in borough hall.

### **Link to EW Greenway at Peddie Lake**

- Dave, Gary and Barbara met with East Windsor Mayor, Mayor Mironov. EW continues to be enthusiastic; however, no progress to report. The group will meet to walk the proposed area. There may be a discussion about linking the greenway with the skate park.

### **Landfill / Solar Panels**

- Ann will update group at next meeting.

### **Greenway Test Spraying**

- Team Gary and Yan went to work on RR Avenue. They used roundup, an burnout 2, and left an area untreated as a control. AT this point, it is too early to make an assessment. Barbara will look at incorporating results into a grant application.

### **Budget**

- Nothing to report.

### **School Recycling**

- Veronica has an appointment with the principal to discuss recycling. She will discuss planting issues at this meeting.

### **Other notes:**

- EC would like to have a liaison from Peddie.
- Stony Brook Millstone got back to us about resources for our flora and fauna inventory. David will follow up and let them know we are interested in learning more.

Send Barbara Jones email at [docjones920@msn.com](mailto:docjones920@msn.com) with additions or corrections to these minutes.