

Borough of Hightstown Environmental Commission

Environmental Commission Meeting

Meeting Date/Time: April 24, 2012 / 7:30 PM

Meeting Location: Meeting Room
First Aid Squad Building

Attendees: Barbara Jones (Chair)
Yan Troizier (Vice-Chair)
Gary Grubb
David Zaiser (STO)
Gail Doran (Council Liaison)
Donna LePrevost
Keith LePrevost

Public: Joan McGee- Stony Brook Millstone Watershed

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by 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 moved to approve the agenda which was seconded by Yan. The agenda was approved.

2.0 Approval of Minutes for meeting of the March, 2012.

2.1 Barbara noted we should all go by first names in the Minutes. David noted the trees on Second Avenue have been scheduled to be trimmed, note completed. Gail moved to approve the minutes with notes, seconded by Donna. The minutes were approved.

3.0 Environmental Resource Inventory (ERI)

3.1 Joan noted the following additions and corrections need to be made to the ERI.

- Bald Eagles are threatened not endangered.
- Radon is not an issue in Hightstown.
- The cover pages including Borough Council members names and Commission members names need to be corrected.
- The third well at the water plant needs to be added. It is there, just not functioning.

Based on these items being corrected we should move to approve the ERI. The Planning board meeting is on May 14 and the ERI will be presented there. Barbara will have the meeting published in the papers. The motion was unanimously approved.

4.0 Stormwater Ordinance

4.1 The ordinance has been broken up into 2 ordinances. One ordinance is for residential lots and the other for large scale or major developments. This is being presented to the Planning Board at the May 14th meeting and will move on to Council as soon as it is approved.

5.0 Shade Tree Report

5.1 No Report.

6.0 Parks and Recreation Liaison

6.1 3 trees have been planted, and the group from the Peddie School has almost finished laying out the walkways at the Rocky Brook. The community garden is up and running and doing well.

7.0 Spring Cleanup

7.1 We had a total of 13 volunteers who collected 365 lbs. of trash. We are hoping the Boy Scouts will adopt the Rocky Brook park as a project and keep it clean.

8.0 St. Anthony's Environmental Fair

8.1 Keith and Donna manned our table at the fair. It was poorly attended due to the holiday that weekend.

9.0 New Business

9.1 Earth Day/Arbor Day Event. David announced we have received the Tree City USA designation and the award will be presented on Friday. Gail urged we do a presentation at Council during the open portion of the meeting.

9.2 David and Barbara suggested we have arborist Kevin Scibilia do an in-service for us and the Public Works department. They can get CEU credits and we can get Tree City credits

9.3 Sustainable Jersey. Barbara thinks we should seek a grant to do something sustainable and state of the art in the reconstruction of the municipal building. David will provide some information on a sustainable plan- his firm has experience in this area.

9.4 Turnpike Silting. David said that the Federal EPA inspectors were on site reviewing the work that is being done. He noted the federal fine are substantial, up to \$20 thousand dollars per day for violations.

9.5 Gail noted that our Arbor Day resolution passed the council with a 6-0 vote, while the Raritan River Initiative passed by only a 4-2 vote.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30PM

The next meeting will be May 22nd t 7:30 PM at the First Aid Squad Meeting Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allen Keith LePrevost

April 24th, 2012

Distribution: Environmental Commission, Borough Clerk