

Borough of Hightstown Environmental Commission

Environmental Commission Meeting

Meeting Date/Time: April 23rd, 2013 / 7:30 PM
Meeting Location: Community Room
Hightstown Housing Authority
Attendees: Barbara Jones
Yan Troizier (Vice-Chair)
Gary Grubb
David Zaiser (STO)
Terry Parliaros
Donna LePrevost
Keith LePrevost
Jeremy Everett
Gail Doran, Council Liaison
High School Liason Aakanksha Malesha
Public Rob Thibult, Council

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 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.

Rob spoke of volunteerism and the impact it has on our community. He presented a certificate and pin to each member of the commission. A volunteer booth will be set up at the harvest fair this year to help promote volunteerism and help to expand our commissions.

Discussion Summary:

1.0 Agenda Approval

1.1 The agenda was approved by consent.

2.0 Approval of Minutes for meeting of the March 26th meeting.

2.1 The minutes were moved by Yan and seconded by Donna. The minutes were approved.

3.0 Shade Tree

3.1 David went to 2 homes this past month with tree issues. The owners are concerned and David will keep an eye on the situation. Keith asked Rob and Gail if there is any money in the budget for tree trimming. They explained that is in public works. Gail feels public works needs to re prioritize there work and focus on what is important. Gary discussed the 9 trees Jeff Bond donated. Gary is working with E.W parks and Rec to find homes and plant the trees. David discussed the Community Stewardship Incentive Program which is a grant to replace trees that have been damaged or lost in storms.

4.0 Parks and Rec

- 4.1 Gary has been working in Rocky Brook park planting ornamental grasses on the well head slope to finish that project. Fertilizing is to be done in Memorial park, The ice rink in Rocky Brook park may be utilized in the summer as a volleyball court. He will keep us up to date.
- 4.2 Paddle Boats- Barbara passed around a signup sheet for the paddle boats. We need 2 people for each night we man the boats.

5.0 High School Liaison

- 5.1 Needs help focusing her project. Not sure how to proceed or what is most important. Barbara suggested contacting the food bank and asking if something could be arranged to pick up left over food from the restaurants when they close.
- 5.2 Keith asked Aakanksha if she could arrange a group from the High School to come to the HA and view our storm water demonstration site. She will work on that and arrange with Keith.

6.0 Timber Run Trash Boom

- 6.1 Has been installed.

7.0 Sustainable Jersey (SJ)

- 7.1 David had a discussion with Linda Greenstein and will follow up with her. Rob thinks we should approach their board members and those that provide grant funding to them.

8.0 Spring Cleanup and Shredding

- 8.1 We shredded over a ton of paper in the 2 hours the truck was on site. (Follow up) Keith spoke to the Shred-it representative and they were very impressed by the volume out of a small town. We also picked up 548 pound of trash that morning and planted a tree that was donated by the girl scouts.

9.0 Sustainable Jersey/PSEG Grant

- 9.1 The project has been completed except for the public presentations. A date has been selected, June 22 from 10-11AM. It is important for members to send Keith contact information for people that should be invited.

10.0 New Business

10.1 Fundraising. Terry would like to have a Wine and cheesecake fundraiser at the Diner next February to benefit the EC. Everyone thinks it is a good idea.

10.2 The Harvest Fair is on October 12th.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:20PM.

The next meeting will be May 28th, at 7:30 PM at the Housing Authority Meeting Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allen Keith LePrevost

April 24, 2013

Distribution: Environmental Commission, Borough Clerk