

Borough of Hightstown Environmental Commission

Environmental Commission Meeting

Meeting Date/Time: February 19, 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

High School Liaison

Public Pat Duncan, Parks and Recreation

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.

Discussion Summary:

1.0 Agenda Approval

1.1 The agenda was moved by David and seconded by Donna.

2.0 Approval of Minutes for meeting of the January 22, 2013 meeting.

2.1 The minutes were moved by Donna and seconded by Barbara.

3.0 Discussion- Parks and Recreation

3.1 Barbara began with a discussion of her impression of how the E.C. with the Mayor moved the responsibility of the Greenway from the E.C. to Parks and Rec. Barbara also discussed how for the E.C., trees and tree maintenance is one of the most important issues, and with the recent refurbishing of the Association Park, one of the major trees was impacted by poor planning and a lack of communication. Pat feels the jurisdiction of the Greenway should remain under the E.C until the final connections are made with East Windsor. Barbara explained the Greenway links with East Windsor will probably never get completed, so we need to address it as its own entity tying the 4 parks in town together. Pat agreed with need to develop a symbiotic relationship to share ideas, plans manpower and funds where possible. Pat suggested the E.C. take over the paddle boats in the summer. This way the E.C. can keep the

funds for their use. Pat also stressed that Rocky Brook Park is in particularly bad shape and needs work. Everyone agreed that public works has neglected that area and a meeting needs to be made with Kenny to address.

4.0 Shade Tree

4.1 All quiet, we managed to get all of our CEU's for 2012 and have a great start on 2013. Our annual Tree City Report has been accepted, but we have not received the designation for this past year yet.

5.0 Parks and Rec

5.1 Gary reported we need have a sit down meeting with Kenny to discuss issues.

6.0 High School Liaison.

6.1 David read Aakanksha's E-mail:

Hello everyone

Sorry that I cannot make it to the meeting tonight because we are expecting guests from out of town tonight,

Here are some updates on what I've been working on:

Mr. Trozier:

I got in contact with Mrs. Kara Neibo and we had a meeting regarding her plans to start a school garden at the Rogers school. My advisor, Mrs. Contreras and I met with her and the principal to present the idea and I was there to suggest starting a chapter of Project Green at the elementary level (there is a jr. Project green at the Kreps Middle school)

The principal at the Rogers school liked the idea but she said that teacher support is necessary. Do you know any teachers at the Rogers school that may be interested?

I told her that if anyone was interested in supervising an environmental recess club, they could email me and I would get that started. In addition, I would send the supervising teacher an example of the grant we wrote so they can apply themselves.

I believe that teachers at the Mc Knight School have expressed an interest and I am planning to schedule a similar meeting there as well. It will be good to see that all the schools in the East Windsor school district supporting environmental clubs and planting gardens in their respective schools.

Thanks,

Aakanksha Malesha

7.0 Sustainable Jersey

7.1 Barbara stated she does not ever want to deal with Sustainable Jersey again. She stressed that if any other member want to pursue, she will provide all the documents sent so far. David is going to reach out to Senator Greenstein regarding the issue.

8.0 Timber Run

8.1 The trash boom we had at Public Works is mysteriously missing and they will order another. Perhaps by spring we will have the trash boom in place.

9.0 Light Bulbs

9.1 We have been assured by Mike that Kenny or his staff will take care of the light bulbs and the delivering them to the recycling center.

10.0 Arbor Day-Shredder Event

10.1 Keith will make up Flyers to be printed and distributed in town for the event. Should publicize the clean-up and Arbor Day. Barbara will ask the Borough for \$300 to help defray the costs.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45PM.

The next meeting will be March 26th, at 7:30 PM at the Housing Authority Meeting Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allen Keith LePrevost

February 21, 2013

Distribution: Environmental Commission, Borough Clerk