

Borough of Hightstown Environmental Commission

Environmental Commission Meeting

Meeting Date/Time: September 23, 2014 / 7:30 PM
Meeting Location: Community Room
Hightstown Housing Authority
Attendees: Barbara Jones(Chair)
Yan Troizier
Gary Grubb
David Zaiser (STO)
Donna LePrevost
Keith LePrevost, (Vice Chair)
Harold Mulleavey(Planning Board)

Public

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 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 David motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Donna.
Approved.

2.0 Approval of Minutes for meeting of the July 22rd meeting.

- 2.1 Donna motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Yan.
Approved.

3.0 Shade Tree

- 3.1 David reviewed his report including the following:
- 135 N. Academy- Trees have been removed
 - 301 Lincoln- does not think basement water issue is from tree roots in the French drains. Also, fill dirt has been added and reseeded from tree removal a couple years ago.
 - Memorial Park Beech appears to be infected with Beech Bark beetle and has lost over 40% of canopy. Further investigation is required.
 - Tree lilac in the Municipal lot to be replaced.
 - Two trees on Stockton St. have been replaced.
 - We have completed 7 of our 8 CEU's for 2014. Keith reminded everyone that we must stay for the entire presentation and sign the sheet at the end. He had a conversation with a woman at the State who know Gary

attended a seminar at Meadow Lakes, but did not complete the form at the end.

4.0 Parks and Recreation.

- 4.1 The Peddle Boat house issue is coming up at the Council next month.

5.0 Sustainable Jersey

- 5.1 Keith noted we currently have 160 points and just need one priority action approved to be certified. We still have 180 points to be reviewed in this cycle. He is confident we will be certified this year.

6.0 Chair Updates

- 6.1 Barbara discussed the meetings that have been held with East Windsor and Peddie
- 6.2 Harvest Fair- Working with forester, we are going to focus on trees and tree maintenance. Have several good brochures and materials. Yan will bring a tree.
- 6.3 Academy Street Property. Yan and Barbara worked out a compromise plan for the homeowner. They will be adding 3 drywells and planting 3 trees.
- 6.4 Kevin Scibilia will be providing a tree workshop in Hightstown. Consensus is for May of 2015 so the trees are in leaf and identification can be easier
- 6.5 Gary and Barbara will attend the ANJEC workshop in October.

7.0 Sustainable Jersey Grants

- 7.1 Keith mentioned there is a Sustainable Jersey Grant available for "energy" based projects. He asked if anyone had any ideas for a project.

8.0 Other grants

9.0 Other business

- 9.1 Girl Scout project. David has not heard a word from the Girl scouts.
- 9.2 Eagle Scout project. Keith has not heard a word from Nathaniel. He mentioned that Rick Pratt was involved with Nathaniel and directing him on signage and other issues. There was a general discussion on the Eagle Scout projects, and the roll of the commissions

9.3 The commission had a long discussion on the role of the commission, the E.C's difficulties in the town with certain members of the Council and Borough staff. There were a variety of ideas and the consensus is that now that the bulk of the Sustainable Jersey work is done, things will quiet down.

9.4 Jeremy Everett has officially resigned from the Commission.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:28PM.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Allen Keith LePrevost

September 24, 2014

Distribution: Environmental Commission, Borough Clerk