

West Deptford Environmental Commission
Minutes
18 August 2014

Present: Dave Sileo, Ed Komczyk, Carl Ford, Bob Waller, Ernie Kraus, Miriam Reichenbach, and John Keuler.

Absent: Dave Keller (excused)

Call to Order: Dave Sileo called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve minutes by Ed Komczyk, seconded by Carl Ford. Motion passed unanimously.

Secretary's Report: no report.

Public Comment: no comment.

Old Business:

ERI Update: Ed stated that he would like to give the proposal for the ERI to John Keuler who will then take the document to the township for the next step. Using the heart of the DVRPC ERI as the basis for the spec, Ed asked that everyone examine, make comments/suggestions and get them back to him by Monday, 25 August. Suggestion that we remember to include residential and business areas.

Do Not Mow Areas: Ed shared the photos and information about the 4 – 5 acre field of wild flowers at the Sunoco plant on old route 130. Ed received permission to take photos and he got the name of the grounds man in charge of the area. You can view this man's work at www.thenorthbrookcompany.com. He is willing to come to one of our meetings and talk about planting areas in the township. Additionally, Ed contacted the *SJ Times* to take some photos and, perhaps, write an article. Dave mentioned that the storm basins look good, thanks to Matt Moore. Ed is planning to take the idea of the wildflowers to the next CAP meeting. There was considerable discussion of how the township could get started with a wildflower project. Miriam will write a note to Sunoco commending the company on its environmentally forward wildflower project. Carl will speak with Matt Moore about identifying areas in the twp. where we might plant wildflowers.

Funding Grants: Dave told us that the sustainable NJ application was passed by the twp. This opens us to many funding possibilities. Dave asked that we look at the website and become familiar with the information there.

New Business:

Chairperson's Report: no report.

Planning Board: no new information. Ed mentioned that we heard from our neighbor about smoke and vapor/odor coming from Johnson Matthey.

West Deptford Day: Miriam talked about the bird seed packets for the kids. Suzanne McCarthy of SJLWT will provide some tabletop displays and handouts. Kathy Sherf may be available to help out at the tent. Dave sent the application to the twp. for a double tent and/or a corner spot. Bob will have a rain barrel and its component parts for exhibit. Also, he hopes to have a mini rain garden. If there isn't enough space for the rain garden, Bob will have an exhibit of fall plants that attract butterflies. Dave said he would have a video but he needs access to electricity. Brandon reminded the group that we need to put in for reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses. We need a schedule of who will work at the table at what times. Dave needs to pay for the web site; he will submit a voucher.

Vice-chair's Report: no report.

Financial Report: no report.

For the Good of the Order: Ed shared a chart regarding the testing of our wells. Colonial Pipeline explained that many elements are transmitted via air, so the surface well contaminant levels are high. Dave told the group that the DeHart's farm market is open. Perhaps we can put displays there. He also contacted some local teachers about investigating the history of agriculture. Bob told us that the Grasso Girls farm is doing a fabulous job. Dave asked if we want to push

bringing agriculture back to West Deptford? Do we want food processing in the twp? Bob suggested we take a look at the Moore greenhouses. Miriam talked a little about her on-going trash patrol along Riverwinds Dr. and the river walk.

Adjourn: Bob moved adjournment at 8:50 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

Miriam Reichenbach, secretary