



Environmental Commission

Minutes 19 December 2016

Present: Ed Komczyk, Carl Ford, Becky Headley, Maureen Concordia, Eric Agren, Denice Di Carlo, and Miriam Reichenbach

Alternate: Domenic Lanciano

Call to Order: Ed Komczyk called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Secretary's Report: The group moved, seconded, and unanimously approved the November minutes as distributed.

Public Comment: none

Old Business:

ERI Update: Ed reminded us that there was an email update regarding the ERI from Melissa Andrews. Also, Ed asked again that we have a tour of the dam on the power plant property – a damn dam tour!

Water Quality Update: Denice shared that wells #5 and 8 are still shut down. The twp. is looking into a filtration system that might be added to these wells. Solvay is still involved in the remediation of our water issues.

Denice gave an update regarding the work the EPA is doing on Birchley Court. Satellite photos of the area indicate where vegetation is old and undisturbed, and where there appears to be more recent growth indicating that the ground has been disturbed. At least one property on the court is fully remediated. The EPA is taking soil samples in the Colonial Manor area of the twp. in order to establish a baseline for soil in the area.

Chairperson's Report: Ken emailed a report about establishing a weather station, perhaps at the middle school. Do we have the money to purchase this? No, not at the moment.

New Business:

Communication with Residents: The Trex recycling bins are in several places throughout the community and are collecting large amounts of used plastic. **Becky will post a photo of one of the recycle boxes on our Facebook page.**

Grants: nothing.

Financial Report: when is our budget request due to the twp? By 1 October.

Sustainable NJ: The twp. passed an ordinance to create a green team composed of nine members: seven twp.

employees; one member of the EC; and one member-at-large. Ken volunteered to be the EC liaison. The team still needs a community member.

Planning: Eric told us that there are some minor updates from Heritage's regarding their new store.

For the Good of the Order: Carl, Becky and Domenic are eligible to be reappointed to the commission. Richard Rodack expressed an interest in serving on the commission.

Denice spoke about the Beautification Committee Calendar Challenge. Perhaps some of us can get involved and submit a photo of our own grounds. **Maybe Domenic will be the first among us to be involved.**

Carl asked that the appropriate person look into lights along Riverwinds Drive that are left on during the day. He also shared that there is an ANJEC training session at Stockton – Understanding Your ERI.

Eric asked about submitting our annual report to the twp. It is due in January of each year. **Ken will see to this.**

Domenic asked if we can use money from our next budget to add a bubbler to the retention pond by the golf/tennis building at Riverwinds. This could become a lovely spot for birders.

Ed reminded us that the ERI is still in need of photos. Additionally, Ed shared the National Audubon Society's Annual Christmas Bird Count results here in West Deptford. Ed's team spotted owls and eagles, and a great blue walking across the ice and snow.

Question: May our commission purchase a group membership to Tall Pines State Preserve? We need a legal opinion.

Adjourn: At 8:45 Ed moved and Maureen seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Dates to Remember:

27 February

Meeting of the Environmental Commission, 7:00 p.m., RiverWinds