



Environmental Commission

Minutes 20 November 2017

Present: Ken Miller, Ed Komczyk, Carl Ford, Becky Headley, Eric Agren, and Miriam Reichenbach.

Alt: Rich Rodack

Twp: Adam Reid

Call to Order: Ken Miller called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Secretary's Report: Carl moved, and Ken seconded a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Accepted unanimously.

Public Comment: Lori Colburn had questions about the signs notifying the public of the eagles' nest at RiverWinds. She indicated that there might be three bald eagle nests in the Queen Street area along the water. Is there a way to locate the actual nests? The DeHart farm backs up to this area. Can the DEP or the environmental commission locate the actual nests? Ed gave Lori contact information for the DEP and explained to her that there is a protected area time-frame for the eagles' nests. Outside of that time-frame, development can take place. Lori also observed that trash is a problem in the creek area. Can the twp. post "no littering" signs? Lori will contact Matt Moore about signs. Ed spoke with Lori about the South Jersey Land and Water Trust (SJLWT).

Old Business:

ERI Update: Ed told the commission that he had an update from Melissa Andrews of the DVRPC. Eric will ask the Planning Committee to have comments on the sections we have received ready by the end of December. DVRPC hopes to have a draft document ready for us early in 2018.

Water Quality Update: Adam had no update on water quality. There is work (perhaps an update) occurring at the pumping station on Kings Hwy. Rich asked a question about the work taking place at the Westwood gas station.

Enviroscope: Some discussion about where to store, who can borrow, etc.

Suspend Agenda: Mr. Crispin, superintendent of schools, explained that there are elevated lead levels in isolated areas in the schools as identified by testing. These instances were with particular fixtures which were replaced. Subsequent testing was clean. Additionally, there are water bottle refilling stations available in some buildings. Mold is an on-going concern; however, there must be some evidence of a problem before testing can occur. Mr. Crispin told us that the HVAC system was upgraded recently. The students are very conscientious about recycling in school. They do need some additional direction on what and how to recycle. This information will come from the administration. There were several questions for Mr. Crispin.

Chairperson's Report: Mail from the twp. – a resolution from the Assembly requesting that townships/individuals plant native species. Someone asked if any of us had ridden past the e-distribution center recently. Apparently, it is quite dirty at the moment. Ultimately, the site will provide revenue to the twp.

New Business:

Communication with Residents: Nothing.

Grants: Nothing.

Earth Day: Ed suggested we do the clean-ups, as usual; demonstrate the Enviroscape; and distribute LED light bulbs. Carl moved, and Ken seconded, a motion to approve spending some of our trust money to purchase the bulbs. Vote was unanimous. Ken will investigate the price and supply of the LED bulbs. Adam requested that we do a tree identification, with signs, along the nature trail at RiverWinds. We will ask Signs Unlimited if they can produce the necessary signs and give us an estimated price for about 25 signs. The water bottle refilling stations at RiverWinds are still an issue. There is nothing we can do to help at this time.

Planning: Eric said that there is nothing new at the moment. Eric will remind the committee of the ERI review.

Financial Report: Maureen reported via email that we have spent \$2,188 of our allotted budget, with about \$2,211 remaining. The \$4,000 in the trust fund remains intact. Exactly the same as last month.

Public Comment: Nothing.

For the Good of the Order:

Ed reminded members whose terms are ending to contact the mayor if they wish to be reappointed to the commission. We will have our reorganization meeting in January; Ken does not wish to chair the commission in the next session. Lori expressed that she was pleased to know what we are doing. There should be a link from the twp. site to our FB page. Also, do we need our own email address at the twp.? Matt Moore has submitted his retirement papers.

Adjourn: At 8:53 Ed moved, and Carl seconded a motion to adjourn.

Dates to Remember:

15 January

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