



Environmental Commission

Minutes 18 December 2017

Present: Ken Miller, Ed Komczyk, Carl Ford, Maureen Concordia, Eric Agren, and Miriam Reichenbach.

Alt: Rich Rodack

Call to Order: Ken Miller called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

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

Public Comment: Nothing

Old Business:

ERI Update: Ed said he is expecting the final draft of the ERI any day. He will distribute it to the commission as soon as he receives it. This group will have three (3) weeks to comment and return suggestions to Ed and Miriam. Miriam will compile the suggestions, correction and edits and forward them to Melissa Andrews at DVRPC. Ed reported that the mayor received a request for the balance of payment from the DVRPC. "No payment will be made at this time." DVRPC has completed only four (4) of the eight (8) project tasks.

Water Quality Update: No report.

Enviroscape: Is at the library for cataloging and checkout. Adults who have a public library card may check out the kit.

Chairperson's Report: No mail. Nothing pressing now. No word yet on reappointments to committees and commissions.

New Business:

Communication with Residents: Facebook views are on the rise.

Grants: Nothing.

Earth Day: We will distribute LED bulbs, in addition to the seedlings we receive from the state. Ken is investigating light bulb prices. Rich will look into Phillips, where he has a connection. Our plan is to purchase between 400 – 500 lightbulbs for distribution.

We are still working on new signs for the nature trail in RiverWinds. Carl knows someone who makes the type of signs we are looking for. He will check on this issue. If Carl's acquaintance cannot help us, perhaps Mike Hogan of SJLWT will be able to assist us.

Planning: Eric said that there is nothing on the December agenda. Ed asked about the spherical tanks under construction at the GCUA. Eric will investigate this issue. Carl asked about the redevelopment plans for RiverWinds. Nothing new to report; proposals are still going through a series of sub-committees. Rich asked if we could label storm drains – reminding people that this water goes out to our streams and rivers. Could this be accomplished using volunteers or a sub-contractor? Additionally, Rich wondered if we might use our budget to purchase a second enviroscape (a non-point source) in the future.

Financial Report: Maureen reported that we have \$2,211 remaining. The \$4,000 in the trust fund remains intact.

Public Comment: Nothing.

For the Good of the Order:

Ed reported on the Audubon Christmas birdcount. There were numerous hunters' gunshots. Group saw 32 species; no great horned owls; no bald eagles; no osprey. They did see 1376 birds. Ed recommended reading *What the Robin Knows* by Jon Young. Ed distributed the Gloucester County Nature Club brochure outlining events and programs. He spoke of the township's move to reduce paper use at meetings. The current agenda is too long, repetitive and irrelevant. He made a recommendation to the township that they change to a new format. If the township doesn't change the format of the agenda, then perhaps this commission will make a recommendation to simplify the agenda.

Eric reminded Ken that the annual report is due to the township. Rich informed us that the Westwood Service Station is up and running. The Southwood Citgo is still closed. They are waiting for DEP to approve a report from the Licensed Site Remediation Professional.

Adjourn: At 8:35 Ed moved, and Eric seconded a motion to adjourn.

Dates to Remember: 26 February

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