



Environmental Commission

**Minutes
15 May 2017**

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

Alternates: Rich Rodack

Twp: Adam Reid

Guest: Joe Rhyner

Call to Order: Ken Miller called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Secretary's Report: Ed, and Carl seconded, a motion to accept the April minutes as presented. The secretary reported that she sent "thank you" notes to Matt Moore and Tyler Rost for their assistance with our Earth Day endeavors.

Public Comment: None

Old Business:

ERI Update: Ed reported that Melissa Andrews is currently in Japan, but she did send an update from some of our flora/fauna experts. In the process, she discovered that West Deptford has a "wildlife management area" – the Lodge Farm.

Archeology Day: at Redbank Battlefield on Saturday, 20 May; 10 – 4.

Water Quality Update: No report. However, there was extensive discussion regarding the commission's rights and responsibilities to examine the plans of the Planning Committee, ask questions, and voice our concerns. We also discussed the respective roles of the Planning Committee and the Environmental Commission.

Earth Day Recap: We had a great clean-up; lousy weather; need posters next year; start at 9 a.m., not 8 a.m.; more pictures! Carl has a copy of the new Commissioner's Handbook from ANJEC. Ed moved, and Miriam seconded that we purchase 15 copies of the new handbook. Carl will take care of this matter.

Chairperson's Report: We received review of permits for work at Colonial Pipeline (maintenance work); and, GCUA (maintenance on Paradise Road). We received a certificate for "environmental stewardship" which we will give to Matt Moore.

New Business:

Communication with Residents: Archeology Day reported on twp site. Get photos from Tyler.

Grants: Nothing new. Green Team meeting cancelled. The mayor was away.

Planning: An E-Commerce Warehouse -- everything approved by the DEP, so far. There may be a need to reapply for some permits. There were several questions regarding these permits. Plans for a small warehouse on Crowne Point Road; no hazardous materials involved. Any comments by the Commission will be forwarded to the Planning Committee.

Resident Request: would the Commission consider placing bat boxes and purple martin apartments in the area so the animals will consume the local mosquitoes – which may present a zika threat? This is not a Commission activity; it might be a Scout activity. However, the best deterrent is to rid properties of stagnant water where mosquitoes might lay eggs!

Financial Report: New budget not yet approved. Solvay donation not yet credited to account, Ed remarked that we had a bit of a problem with registering our membership to Tall Pines. This is a settled issue. There is a question about a check to the Shade Tree Federation. What is this? Maureen will investigate this matter.

For the Good of the Order: Nothing to report.

Public Comment: Joe Rhyner made comments and answered numerous questions about the comments on the warehouse project at the Huntsman Plant. There seems to be a problem with the rainwater infiltration requirements. These plans must have some serious modifications to meet requirements.

Adjourn: At 8:55 p.m. Ed moved and Carl seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Dates to Remember:

17 July

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

