



Environmental Commission

Minutes

20 May 2019

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

Alt: Jodi Purvenis

Twp: Adam Reid

Public: Marilyn Quinn

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

Secretary's Report: Approved as amended to reflect the Planning Board process.

Public: nothing

Old Business:

Liaison: Adam explained the process involved in the Planning Board's review of comments and questions from the Environmental Commission regarding site plans. Ken asked about a pumping station proposal.

Earth Day: Ed reported that our seedling giveaway was a huge success. 2,000 seedlings found new homes, including 50 which we gave to the library to share with young ones involved with an Arbor Day/literacy program. The library flower beds look marvelous, thanks to Jose Cruz and his kids, our volunteers, and Bob Waller (landscaper) who volunteers his time and expertise. Ken sent thanks to everyone who participated in any way in our Earth Day projects.

Chairperson's Report:

Ken reported that the eagle camera at Riverwinds was not going to work. The logistics of placing the camera, keeping it running, etc. is more than we can do. There was discussion about asking local businesses to adopt a no paper straw/compostable bag policy, but this is tricky. Businesses may feel targeted. Better that we spend our efforts educating the public and businesses of the impact of using straws, Styrofoam take-home containers, single-use plastic bags, etc.

New Business:

Communication with Residents: Nothing new.

Tree Identification: Eric is still working on getting all the appropriate wording for the signs. Miriam will proofread and edit before final printing. There are still 10 trees which need signage written.

Grants: Nothing at the moment. Jodi's students asked, via letter, if the Environmental Commission would provide a donation to help them (grade 3) to help build a garden at school. Plants and mulch were donated by local businesses, but students need a bit of money to finish the project. Carl motioned that we donate up to \$50 to the youngsters' project. Motion was seconded by Ed and passed unanimously. **Miriam will see Barb Lamplugh** about how to handle this donation.

Becky suggested that we might recruit two (2) high school students to attend our meetings in the new school year. We need someone to contact the Superintendent of Schools to make this suggestion a reality. **We need a contact person.**

Ed requested a motion, made by Ken and seconded by Becky, that we utilize the remainder of the Colonial Pipeline donation to print another 15 copies of the ERI. Motion passed.

Planning Committee: Eric told us that the Solvay solar panel concerns were addressed. There may be a committee meeting next week; Eric will let us know.

Financial Report: No report.

Public Comment: Marilyn Quinn expressed some concerns about Solvay because of the location of her home. There is a monitoring well at the Zander property, which should help alleviate concerns. The local HOA is not in favor of the "greening" of an area. Carl explained that there is no allowance for rain barrels, bat houses, clothes lines, etc.

For the Good of the Order:

Ed reported that 301 Grove Road is very muddy and dirty. This is an area that both the county and the township should keep an eye on and ask the owners to keep the area clean. Cleaning/sweeping needs to occur more frequently.

Adjourn:

At 8:20 Ed moved and Ken seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried.

Dates to Remember:

17 June, Commission meeting, 7:00 p.m., at Riverwinds