

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 2004 AT 7:00 P.M.

**MINUTES OF THE RP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
February 26, 2004**

Jim Ruff began the meeting at 7:10 p.m., it having been duly noted that this meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., notice of which was sent to The Record on the 29th day of December, 2003, and to the Star-Ledger on the 29th day of December, 2003. Roll call was taken. Members present were: Jim Ruff, Barbara Frimmer, Dana Moaven and Maureen Nassan. Kathy Jacob called to say that she was ill and could not attend the meeting. Steve and Linda Quinn were absent.

The minutes of the January 22, 2004, meeting were approved with the deletion of the sentence "Maureen Nassan advised that Bob Perna called one day to get pricing."

The amount of \$1,200.00 was encumbered under voucher no. 7590 for the Earth Day Celebration scheduled for April 24, 2004. A copy of this voucher should be attached to all expenses submitted.

Jim Ruff informed the Commission that he would be unable to attend the next three meetings because he will be attending a class for his job.

Maureen Nassan advised that she did not receive a submission for the newsletter from Amy Bologna. Maureen also advised that she could not proceed any further with the interpretive signs until she heard back from John Quinn.

Maureen said that Arbor Day would take place on Friday, April 23 at Grant School. The Shade Tree Commission will also plug the Earth Day Celebration at the Arbor Day ceremony.

Jim Ruff said that the Hackensack Riverkeeper will be present on Earth Day but will be unable to bring any canoes because they are already committed elsewhere. He will try to contact Kathy Gordon from the Wanda Canoe Club to see if they have any canoes and/or kayaks available. Maureen Nassan said she could check with Ramsey Outdoor to see if they could offer any canoes for use on Earth Day.

GJEM Insurance has not sent the insurance certificate necessary to hang the Earth Day Banner. Wachovia Bank will not give permission to hang the banner until they receive the insurance certificate. Commissioner Anlian will check into the status of the certificate with Matt McArow of GJEM.

Barbara Frimmer advised that she would not be present for the Earth Day Celebration as she has a prior commitment. Supt. John Richardson has made

Grant School Principal Christopher Onorato the coordinator for the school's participation in the Earth Day celebration. Mr. Onorato will contact Barbara DeLuca with details on the school's participation.

Reminder letters were sent to: Boy Scouts Troop #3, Girls Scouts, Capt. Bill Sheehan, Supt. John Richardson, St. Francis School, Village Gardeners, DPW and the Shade Tree Commission regarding participation in Earth Day. No responses have been received from the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, St. Francis School or the Village Gardeners to date.

Maureen Nassan advised that she would confirm Earth Day again with Risky Business. She also will contact Elsa Martinez about handling the food this year after confirming with Linda Quinn that the boys scouts are not handling the food since they were offered the food table first.

The Commission already has coloring books to hand out on Earth Day. Notices announcing the event were already sent to: Channel 10, The Record, The Bergen News and the Community Access cable channel. The notice for the Community Message Board was given to the Clerk's Office.

Maureen Nassan advised that she received Bob Perna's estimates for landscaping at Riverfront Park. Maureen said that there is not enough money for both suggested areas to be planted at this time. The two suggested plantings are Area 1 in the center at a cost of \$5,735.00 and Area 2 in the dock area at a cost of \$6,335.00. Since Alan O'Grady does not have DPW manpower to do the planting, Bob Perna will do the planting of this area.

Maureen Nassan made a motion, which was seconded by Jim Ruff, that Bob Perna begin work when he can on planting Area 1 in the center in the amount of \$5,735.00. All were in favor of this motion.

Commissioner Anlian will have to check into payment for this project since it was questioned whether this projected needed to go out for bid or if quotes needed to be obtained.

Commissioner Anlian will be contacted to see if he and/or the Quinns have sent the audubon books to Dr. Richardson so that the teachers can review them to see how many they would need for classroom use. Dr. Richardson had previously advised the Commission that the school would gladly accept the donation of books from the Commission.

A letter will be sent to Commissioner D'Auria with a copy to the Mayor and Board of Commissioners requesting the status of the proposed mosquito spraying by the county. The Commission wants to know if permission was granted to the County by the Mayor and Board of Commissioners despite the Commission's objections and if permission was granted, if the Board of Commissioners inquired

as to what would be sprayed. As the advisory commission to the Village, the Commission would like to be kept advised on this status.

Jim Ruff advised that he recently took a walk through the nature preserve area. It seems that this time of year would be a good time to do a clean up as the area is clearer before the new growth begins. The Commission will discuss plans to schedule a clean up next year at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara DeLuca

Absent Members: Kathy Jacob, Linda Quinn, Steve Quinn and John Zuzeck.