

**NEXT MEETING THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2004 AT 7:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES OF THE RP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
May 27, 2004**

Chairman Jim Ruff called the meeting to order at 7:08 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. Members present were: Jim Ruff, Madeline Cappuccio, Barbara Frimmer, Kathy Jacob, Dana Moaven and Maureen Nassan.

The minutes of the April 22, 2004, meeting were approved.

A thank you card was received from the family of Virginia Anlian for the expression of sympathy.

Earth Day took place on Saturday, April 24, 2004. Everything went well. There were the usual complaints about some people not getting a ride on the boat even though the boat did stay a little later this year to accommodate another group of visitors. The winner of the pizza party was Mrs. Slattery's second grade class from St. Francis. They were awarded a certificate for four pizzas from Angelo's Pizza, which they already used and thanked the Commission for. The second place class was Mrs. Ahrlich's kindergarten class. The Commission decided to award them an ice cream party. Only two high school students showed up to assist. Maureen Nassan said the food worked out well this year and all the hot dogs were used.

Some members said that they heard people complain that they could not find the park to attend the celebration. Next year more signs will be placed around Ridgefield Park to make it easier for people to find the celebration. It was suggested that perhaps signs similar to those used for real estate open houses could be set up or perhaps Bruce Herrick could make a big sign to be placed on Main Street directing people to the location. Dana Moaven said that her daughter has offered to assist in making signs for next year.

Next year is the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Earth Day and Commissioner Anlian would like to see a big celebration planned. Plans will need to be made early next year to make sure everything is in order.

Bob Perna is done with the first phase of planting at Riverfront Park. The amount encumbered was accidentally made out for \$5,375 instead of \$5,735 so an additional voucher will have to be submitted to make up the \$360 error. A motion was made by Maureen Nassan and seconded by Jim Ruff to submit another voucher for \$360 to complete payment for the first phase of the planting at Riverfront Park. All were in favor of this motion.

A motion was made by Maureen Nassan and seconded by Kathy Jacob to submit a voucher for \$525 to pay Risky Business Band for performing at the Earth Day Ceremony. All were in favor of this motion.

A motion was made by Jim Ruff and seconded by Kathy Jacob to submit a voucher for \$322 to reimburse Maureen Nassan for the food purchased for Earth Day. All were in favor of this motion.

Jim Ruff said that he would write up something for the next Village newsletter about backyard habitats. The deadline is August 20<sup>th</sup> for submissions.

The Bergen County Planning Board has a public meeting scheduled for June 14 at 7:00 p.m. at the courthouse as they have written a Bergen County Open Space and Recreation Plan. Jim Ruff will prepare a statement from the Environmental Commission regarding the lack of completion of the promised park. He will forward a copy of this meeting notice to the Mayor and Board of Commissioners. It was suggested that the Environmental Commission send a letter to the editor of The Record stating its position on this matter.

A letter will be sent to Commissioner Hugo Poli, the new Commissioner of Parks and Public Buildings & Lands advising him on the Commission's feeling regarding aerial spraying and spraying of pesticides on public grounds. Previously, a letter was sent to Commissioner D'Auria on February 27, 2004, regarding the Bergen County Mosquito Control Division requesting permission to perform aerial spraying in Ridgefield Park as needed throughout the summer months. The Commission inquired if permission was granted despite its objections and also inquired what would be sprayed. No response has been received to date.

Bruce Herrick has offered to make a sign for the Environmental Commission and/or a float for the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade. He said that if the Commission pays for the materials and he gets assistance he would be more than happy to make something. Dana Moaven and Kathy Jacob said they could assist with painting. Bruce Herrick will be contacted to discuss this further.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 24, 2004. Barbara Frimmer and Maureen Nassan advised that they are unable to attend this meeting

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara DeLuca

cc: Commissioner Anlian