

**NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 2017 AT 7:30 P.M.  
(IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE GREEN TEAM MEETING)**

**MINUTES OF THE RP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
JULY 27, 2017**

Chairman Stephen Quinn called the meeting to order at 7:55 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 published in The Record and sent to the Star Ledger as well as posted on the Village message board. Members present were: Peggy Conversano, Harry Menta, Leslie Olson, Mark Olson, Linda Quinn, Stephen Quinn and Jin Ah Jong. Not Present: Guillermo Lopez-Acosta, Joseph D'Angeli, Gloria Rivera and James Ruff.

**Hearing of Citizens:** None.

A motion was made by Leslie Olson and seconded by Steve Quinn, approving the minutes of the June 22, 2017, meeting. All were in favor of the motion.

**Approval of Bills:** No new bills were submitted.

**Correspondence:**

- 1) 2017 Nomination Packet for NJDEP Recycling Awards: No nominations yet. The EC should make a guidelines packet to give to businesses that tells a business what they need to do to recycle more. Maybe the EC could put something in their window when they qualify. Harry Menta will draft something. Perhaps a meeting for business owners to discuss going green might be helpful to see if the business is willing to work with the EC. It might even be helpful to be able to give out the guidelines when someone picks up permit info from the Building Dept. Promoting recycling is a good thing to do regardless of any award. It was discussed that if a flyer was sent out and the business participated, there could be some sort of sticker in the window from the EC. Steve said he would be happy to work with Harry on the handout for the stores. The EC suggested having a meeting with the business owners to distribute the guidelines.
- 2) Jin Ah Jong has been named as an Associate Member.

**Old Business:**

**Bat Houses:** Mark Olson and one of the gardeners will start building them in September. The nature preserve could probably use a couple of the bat houses.

**Nature Preserve:** The DPW has cleared the main trail in preparation for a proper trail to go in. They have also partially cleared a lot of the fallen trees and debris.

Steve Quinn also spoke with John Anlian about possible planting in the fall in the area that has been cleared. Mark Olson would like to see the gardeners get some credit toward their 18 hours by planting there. John Anlian is hoping that the main trail will be in and installed by the end of the summer. This is near the end of Overpeck Avenue. All the signage is in and waiting for installation.

Steve Quinn did discuss with John Anlian the need to include on the plan an entrance from the high school to the boardwalk. John Anlian agrees with it. John is waiting for some indication of plans for a walkway that will pass over 95 over to Overpeck Park because the entrance to the nature preserve should coincide with that plan.

Steve said the EC could put together a memo to the Mayor and Board of Commissioners regarding noise in Overpeck Park and the noise pollution in the park.

A motion was made by Harry Menta and seconded by Mark Olson to send a memo, with the Green Team joining in, to the Mayor and Board of Commissioners with criticism of the noise pollution at Overpeck and include possible solutions. All were in favor of the motion.

Suggested solutions such as plant a berm or sound wall, point speakers down, lower the permitted decibel level as RP does have a sound ordinance will be included in the memo.

**190 Main Street:** Peggy Conversano asked about the status of this application before the Zoning Board. The matter has been postponed until August 7. The EC feels that from a quality of life position, the application should be denied because of lack of required parking.

**Eagles:** There is nothing new to report on the eagles.

**Fishing Derby:** The date has been set for November 4, with November 5 as the rain date. It will be held from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Steve Quinn said the EC has the support of the Hudson River Fisherman's Assn., who will provide volunteers, fish tackle and bait. They recommend that the EC also have any volunteers that can come out to assist. This would be greatly appreciated.

Steve has received confirmation from the NJ Fish & Wildlife who will also be in support providing printed materials at the very least. The Hackensack Riverkeeper has noted the event on their schedule and committed support. Also, the NJDEP has advised they will support this event as well.

Sergio Radossi connected Steve Quinn with NJOA who connected him with HOFNOD. Steve has spoken with Liz Jackson of Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs (HOFNOD). The EC is off to a good start. It is primarily a young person's program but could also provide for any adults wanting to participate as well. If the participant is over 16, it will not require a registry and license.

The EC needs to think if it wants to offer prizes for fish. It is a catch and release event. Some suggestions were maybe for biggest fish, smallest fish, heaviest fish, most fish, non-fish, etc. There needs to be a net at the event. Members should think about what prizes to offer and what the prize will be. Prizes will be only for those 15 and under. Adults will not be eligible for prizes. They can fish but will not be eligible for prizes.

Steve would like to, if possible, have the fall fishing derby have an educational element so that, somehow, the kids and families understand that successful fishing and a healthy fishery is a result of a healthy environment. It would be great to have some sort of an educational program or exhibit at the location so that, during the day, they can break from fishing and learn.

**Sustainable Jersey Actions** – Most actions regarding this were discussed in the GT meeting held prior to the EC meeting tonight. GT got some comments back on tasks that need further support to gain the necessary points.

**Bergen County Open Space Grant** – Bergen County Open Space funds have been submitted and John Anlian is hoping to get good news. Hopefully, this will fund installation of the boardwalk into the wetlands area of the nature preserve.

**Eagles** – There is no news as far as the eagles. They are still there.

**Weed Warriors** – Nothing new to report on this now.

#### **New Business:**

Mark Olson said that all the recyclables were dumped into the truck after the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade because people had contaminated them. Part of the problem is people don't realize that when they dump garbage into a recyclable container they damage the recyclables and everything then turns into trash. Alan is open to ideas. Mark said maybe the EC and GT should think about a float to collect the recyclables at the end of the parade.

Steve Quinn suggested sending a memo on the new helicopter route over RP. At the next meeting, a vote will be taken to see if anyone would like to agree to send a memo to the Board of Commissioners asking for a statement regarding the helicopter route.

The next regular meeting will be August 24, 2017, at 7:30 p.m. or immediately following the Green Team meeting.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Steve Quinn and seconded by Mark Olson adjourning the meeting at 8:45 p.m. All were in favor of this motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara DeLuca