

**NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2013 AT 8:00 P.M. (if needed)**

**MINUTES OF THE RP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
NOVEMBER 21, 2013**

Chairman James Ruff called the meeting to order at 8:10 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 and the Newark Star Ledger on the 28th day of December, 2012. Members present were: James Ruff, Kevin Avery, Peter Garvey, Harry Menta and Steve Quinn. Also present was Peggy and Erin Conversano.

The minutes of the October 24, 2013, meeting were approved.

**Correspondence received:** Invoice from NJ Batman for Earth Day 2014.

**Old Business:**

**Eagles** – Steve Quinn sent an email to Kathy Clark and Robert Hughes at the DEP just to keep in touch and make sure they are up-to-date on the activities regarding the eagles. Steve advised them about the Langan meeting and that it was positive and had good input and requested the State's input as well. Jim Ruff agreed it was a good idea and the only thing he was unsure of was if the EC could commit funds for additional buoys. Steve has not gotten a response to the letter he sent to the State yet. He will reach out to Dave Jenkins for an update.

Steve Quinn will check to see if he received the testing results from Tony Noce. The EC realizes they all have a lot of work to do as a result of the Langan meeting and feels it is a positive sign that there was not an immediate response before they reached out to the EC. The EC will reach out to Tony Noce after Thanksgiving for an update.

**Eagle Talk** – The EC thinks it important to keep the residents advised of the status of the eagles nest. Steve Quinn and Kevin Avery will give a talk to residents. Steve will check with Cynde Hammond or DPW about when it could be held. It will probably be held in January.

**Interpretive Signs** – Steve Quinn is working on the drawings.

**Bat Watch** – Joe Angeli needs to be contacted to see when a date should be set.

**Eagle Scout Project** – No one has heard from Marco Salazar.

**Christmas Bird Count** – December 7 was set as the next Christmas Bird Count. It will start at 7:00 a.m. at McGowan Park and also at 9:30 a.m. at the amphitheater in Overpeck County Park. Harry Menta sent out a press release and a flyer was distributed in the schools. It was also sent to the newsletter. Flyers have also been hung in the stores on Main Street and it is already on the community message board.

**Earth Day 2014** – May 17, 2014, was set as Earth Day 2014. High tide is 12:51 p.m. on that day. The EC will start with a bird watch from 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Earth Day will run from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Invitations went out and responses have started to come in. Fran Orovitz responded that the scouts will participate. Peggy Conversano said the girls scouts would also participate and are hoping to have more tables this year. NJ Batman sent the invoice for the show. The shows will be kept on the same time schedule as last year. Angel the face painter, Tenaflly Nature Center and Risky Business have all advised they will be participating.

Steve Quinn will be doing the bird watch prior to Earth Day from 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. It will start at 7:00 a.m. at McGowan Park and then meet at 8:30 a.m. at the amphitheater in the County Park. It will be advertised on the same flyer as Earth Day.

Meeting dates for 2014 were set for 7:30 p.m. as follows:

JANUARY 23  
FEBRUARY 27  
MARCH 27  
APRIL 24  
MAY 22  
JUNE 26

JULY - NO MEETING  
AUGUST – NO MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 25  
OCTOBER 23  
NOVEMBER 20 (THIRD THURSDAY)  
DECEMBER 18 (THIRD THURSDAY, IF NECESSARY)

**New Business:**

Steve Quinn advised that the theme for the next Cub Scout Blue and Gold Dinner to be held in February is “Save Our Eagles”.

Peggy Conversano wanted the EC to know that Ariana Dindial’s gold award was officially approved.

**Buoys:** Steve Quinn thinks this would be a good time to add buoys to the ones installed by the State. He thinks there were not enough buoys installed and that the EC should add more. It can be as simple as adding a line with floating bottles. There also needs to be stenciled a simple warning on the big buoy, for instance, bald eagles – endangered species, etc. Currently it is unclear as to why the buoys are there because the only thing stenciled on them is “keep lift”. The EC would first need the DEP’s approval and would work with them on adding additional buoys. The state needs to be reassured that the EC will work with them on this.

**Nature Preserve:** Now is a good time to do some maintenance. Members will check on the condition of this area.

The EC will check with the Village Clerk to see if the Village has a new grantsman.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 19, 2013, at 8:00 p.m. (if needed).

The meeting ended at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara DeLuca