

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2020, AT 7:00 P.M.

**MINUTES OF THE RP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
February 27, 2020**

Chairman Steve Quinn called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 bulletin board. Members present were: Tammy Lavery, Guillermo Lopez-Acosta, Harry Menta, Leslie Olson, Mark Olson, Linda Quinn, Steve Quinn. Excused: Gloria Rivera. Absent: Peggy Conversano, Asai Maschang, Carolina Espin, Jin Ah Jong, Joseph D'Angeli.

Hearing of Citizens: None present. Nicole Kachadorian was present as a guest.

A motion was made by Linda Quinn and seconded by Mark Olson to approve the January 23, 2020, meeting minutes. All were in favor of the motion.

Payment of Bills: None this month.

Correspondence:

- Email dated 1/28/20 from ANJEC Re: 2020 Fundamentals for Effective Environmental Commissions
Steve Quinn said he would really like to attend one of these sessions. He will call up to register for the March 7 session. If anyone is interested in going with Steve, please let him know.
- Email dated 2/2/20 from ANJEC Re: Grants for Open Space Stewardship Projects – Deadline April 3, 2020
There is a grant for up to \$1,500.00. Tammy Lavery will look into a pollinator garden.
- Email dated 2/14/20 from Adam Strobel announcing 2020 Funding Round application deadlines
Steve Quinn will turn this over to Commissioner Anlian.
- Email dated 1/21/20 from ANJEC Re: plastic ordinance
Steve Quinn will look into this and ask the Commissioners to ask for a plastic ordinance. Tammy Lavery said she ordered a CD on "bag it". Mark Olson said the Englewood baler should be in sometime in March. Mark Olson will contact ANJEC about a model ordinance.
- Letter dated 2/19/20 from Boswell Engineering Re: NJDEP Flood Hazard Wetlands General Permit No. 17
Ridgefield Park Nature Trail
This letter is to inform the EC they are applying for permits necessary to conduct the nature trail.
- Signed PO 40627 from Mark Rust.

Old Business:

RP Nature Preserve/Nature Trail – Steve Quinn brought the completed drawings of the nature preserve. The Bergen County Audubon will be happy to help and provide plantings as well.

Green Business – Palma Kitchen, located at 192 Main Street, has opened. They will probably be a Green Business as well as a Styrofoam-Free Business. Leslie Olson checked with the Board of Health and customers are allowed to bring their own take home container as long as it is clean.

Newsletter – The next deadline is May 15. Members should think of articles for the next newsletter.

BYOB – Leslie Olson is still working on this. She will work on a cover letter to go with the signs and then distribute them to the stores. The EC selected March 14 as the day to distribute the signs. All available members should meet at 10:00 a.m. in front of the municipal building. It will not take long.

Earth Day 2020 – Earth Day is scheduled for June 13. On June 13, high tide is 4:40 p.m., low is 10:30 a.m. which means fishing would be good all afternoon. Harry Menta wrote an article for the newsletter.

Community Clean-Up Day – Shop-Rite said to call back in early March to find out about getting supplies. April 18 was the date selected for Clean-Up Day. Details will be worked on and available for the March meeting.

New Business:

Riverfront Park – Steve Quinn, Mark Olson and Tammy Lavery met with the Wanda Canoe Club. Jennifer Schneider, Watershed Ambassador, talked about the containers there. The general idea is to ask the Village to tear down the

building. The Village would probably have to mitigate problems from the pistol range, put in a cement slab and put the Wanda Canoe container back and add a third one for the GT/EC to use. Putting a roof with solar panels on it has been received as a good idea. Also put in pollinator garden, signage, mitigate invasive plants on bank to bring more attention to the park. Wanda Canoe Club would do outreach for Village residents and people interested in paddling.

Tammy Lavery suggested that maybe there needs to be a yearly agreement to make sure the place is being maintained. This is a good thing to think about for the future.

Adopt-A-Park – The EC will work together with the GT on this project. The groups will need to come up with a program. Nicole Kachadorian said maybe the girl scouts could do Hunter Park. The EC would be better equipped to suggest plantings, etc. The EC would do it as a joint activity. Leslie Olson will work on putting together some information.

Tammy Lavery passed around a “passport” that she thought might be able to be adapted to use on Earth Day.

Mark Olson said Fish & Wild Life may bring their educational trailer and possibly their archery trailer. They have not decided yet if they will do it.

Guillermo Lopez-Acosta said everyone has received a letter about lead in the drinking water but many do not understand it. He suggested that maybe Suez Water could do an educational table at Earth Day. Suez Water will be contacted to ask them to set up a table with info on lead.

The next regular meeting will be March 26, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Leslie Olson and seconded by Guillermo Lopez-Acosta adjourning the meeting at 7:52 p.m. All were in favor of this motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara DeLuca