

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2022 AT 7:00 P.M.

**MINUTES OF THE RP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
November 9, 2021 VIA ZOOM**

Chairman Steve Quinn called the meeting to order at 7:05 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, Linda Quinn, Steve Quinn, Matt Graves, Nicole Terrarosa. Excused: none. Absent: Guillermo Lopez-Acosta, Harry Menta, Leslie Olson, Gloria Rivera.

Hearing of Citizens: None present.

A motion was made by Matt Graves and seconded by Tammy Lavery to approve the October 12, 2021, meeting minutes. All were in favor of the motion.

Payment of Bills:

PO 47075 - \$773.46 – Ernst Seed – Order #689016 Seeds for Nature Preserve

Seeds should arrive the end of this week. Steve Quinn will notify EC members when they are in and would appreciate assistance from members to plant the seeds at the Nature Preserve. He will speak with the DPW to get the necessary tools for the planting.

Correspondence:

- Winter Newsletter deadline is November 16. Distribution December 4.
Short discussion was held on what to send in for the newsletter. Some suggestions were: feeding birds, winter wildlife in your backyard. If any members have any ideas, please send them to the EC. Tammy Lavery said on January 16 (Sun) 10AM-2PM, there is an Eagle Festival at the New Overpeck County Park by the bandshell. The week before on January 9 @ 1:00 p.m. there is Save the Eagles Day on Bell Drive in Ridgefield. Once she confirms the Bergen County Audubon gets the final ok, she will let members know.
The EC set Saturday, January 8, 2022, as the day for the Winter Bird Count. This can all go in the newsletter. Matt Graves said he doesn't think black plastic bags are recyclable and should be banned. He will check into this and let Steve know.

Old Business:

Street Fair: Steve Quinn thanked the members for helping at the table for the Street Fair. He said he got a lot of people to sign up for info on the Nature Preserve. He will send the list to the secretary to add to the group emails.

Village Clean-Up Day: Nicole Terrarosa will contact girl scouts and Green Team to see about scheduling a clean-up day close to Earth Day in April (23rd or 24th possibly). The EC will contact ShopRite about supplies for the day. A discussion was held on what area to concentrate on and members felt that Main Street and Mt. Vernon Street (business district) would be a good place to start with a lot of impact and visibility for others to see the results.

Nicole said that she recently participated in a clean-up with the Adopt-A-Park program with the RP Arts Association. They planted bulbs in Vogt Park.

New Business:

America Recycles Day is 11/15: The EC will ask Harry Menta if he can put up an appropriate link about recycling or something to acknowledge the day or possibly how to recycle properly.

Earth Day 2022: Steve checked the tides for 2022. There are two good days. One is May 7 but the Quinns will be away at that time and he doesn't want to leave the EC to handle everything. May 21 is also a good day as far as tides. The EC will reach out to the Hackensack Riverkeeper and HRFA to see if it works for them.

Nature Preserve: Work is still moving on. Right now, the contractor is waiting for fabrication of boardwalk and bridges that will be available for installation in December. They are using consolidant for trails for ADA because the gravel can't be loose.

There was a large tree taken down and the EC decided to ask RP Arts Association to turn it into a sculpture. It is completed now and is spectacular. It shows all kinds of wildlife on it, sort of like a tree of life. It will serve as an icon and attraction to the Nature Preserve as well. They are looking into possible lighting for this sculpture. Once the trail has been developed, Steve will take EC members to view it. The next step will be planting the seeds once they arrive.

Winter Bird Count: January 8, 2022, was scheduled as the date for the Winter Bird Count.

Elections: to be held at January meeting.

If something urgent comes up and the EC feels it needs to be discussed, a zoom meeting can be scheduled for December.

Meeting dates for 2022 were set. In January, in-person meetings will resume.

ALL MEETINGS TO BE HELD AT 7:00 P.M. PREVAILING TIME ON THE LOWER LEVEL OF THE CIVIC CENTER, 159 MAIN STREET, THE SECOND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH, UNLESS POSTED OTHERWISE

**JANUARY 11
FEBRUARY 8
MARCH 8
APRIL 12**

**MAY 10
JUNE 14
JULY 14 - IF NECESSARY
AUGUST 9 - IF NECESSARY**

**SEPTEMBER 13
OCTOBER 11
NOVEMBER 8
DECEMBER – NO MEETING**

The next regular meeting will be January 11, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Steve Quinn and seconded by Tammy Laverty adjourning the meeting at 7:42 p.m. All were in favor of this motion.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara DeLuca
Barbara DeLuca

cc: Commissioner William Gerken

Info for zoom meetings: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/75999621083?pwd=UIRpRXYxTU5tYUZCY0RSV0hab1J2QT09>
Meeting ID: 759 9962 1083 Passcode: 3PsA19