

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2014 AT 7:30 P.M.

**MINUTES OF THE RP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
AUGUST 28, 2014**

Chairman James Ruff called the meeting to order at 7:30 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 10th day of January, 2014. Members present were: James Ruff, Peter Garvey, Kevin Avery and Harry Menta.

The minutes of the July 24, 2014, meeting were approved.

Correspondence received: None received.

Old Business: All members – please make note that the meeting time is 7:30 p.m.

Eagles – Joan Hansen and Don Smith sent over their draft of a letter listing their response to the three main issues concerning the Skymark project. 1) The impacts associated with reducing the size of the buffer zone and methods to minimize the impacts and screen the eagle nest site from the road 2) installation of an artificial nesting tower and 3) possible use of the on-site wetland as a mitigate site.

The June 5, 2014, letter from John Gray, Acting Director, Office of Permit Coordination and Environmental Review was taken into account when Joan and Don prepared their response.

Jim Ruff said he would prepare a one page letter to Skymark that he would like members to review and comment on so the letter can go out by September 5. Jim will request an update regarding the status of the eagles' nest. He will also inquire if Skymark has completed the ecological evaluation request by the Site Remediation Program of NJDEP and if Skymark's LSRP has definitively determined whether the Lincoln Paper Company ceased its landfill operations prior to 1982 as this is critical information in regards to determining closure and remedial requirements.

The EC feels it very important to constantly reiterate its opposition of the construction of an artificial nest platform regardless of the outcome of this issue. The EC feels strongly that it does not want to see a platform constructed. Jim will request a meeting at Skymark's convenience to discuss these issues and options presented to Skymark.

Interpretive Signs – Steve Quinn has done some additional work on the drawings. He has one project to finish up and then he can get back to work on the drawings.

New Business:

Tree Walk: The EC will see if October 11, 2014, is a good date for John Anlian to do the annual fall tree walk. Harry Menta will handle the publicity for this activity.

Jim Ruff said that in the future the EC needs to set up an action plan and deadline for all activities in order to keep things running on a timely basis. He does not see the need for any emergency meetings unless there is a specific deadline to be met. Each month there will be an action listed and a deadline for the completion of each action that the EC will follow.

Jim advised that he will be unable to attend the September meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 25, 2014, at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting ended at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara DeLuca