

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2014 AT 7:30 P.M.

**MINUTES OF THE RP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
APRIL 24, 2014**

Chairman James Ruff called the meeting to order at 7:45 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, Kevin Avery, Peter Garvey.
The minutes of the March 27, 2014, meeting was approved.

Correspondence received: 1) Letter dated April 17, 2014, from William Dressel Re: DEP Grant Program Announced – Public Access Plans for Beaches and Other Tidal Waters 2) Invitation to Arbor Day Celebration on May 10 at 9:30 a.m. at Fellowship Park – tree to be planted in honor of Bonnie Anlian

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

Eagles – There appears to be no activity at the nest any longer. Kevin Avery said he did see an osprey in the area. Steve Quinn needs to do the revised drawings. If Steve can have the drawings ready for the next meeting, the EC will ask Don Smith to attend the next meeting.

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.

Eagle Scout Project – Steve Quinn said a good future eagle project would be to make a cross country ski trail. Teaneck Creek has great trails.

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. Vouchers were sent out for signatures. The shows will be kept on the same time schedule as last year. Angel the face painter, Tenafly Nature Center, Risky Business, Eyes Wild, NJ Batman, Snakes n Scales have all advised they will be participating. Vouchers have been returned by: PO#12068 Wildlife Center, PO#13306 Risky Business, PO#13310 Tenafly Nature Center, PO#13311 Snakes 'n Scales, PO#13308 Angel Mavrianos and PO #13307 Boy Scout Troop 3. They have been submitted for payment. Lenape Lifeways will not be participating this year.

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. Flyers will go out in the schools shortly.

Japanese Knotweed Eradication Project – On April 5, the EC and scouts from Troop 3 installed the landscaping fabric. The scouts were very helpful and Jim Ruff sent them a thank you.

On April 12, the EC decided to spread mulch on top of the landscape fabric. Three scouts again helped out with some members of the EC. The DPW provided the mulch. Jim Ruff had some discussion with John Anlian and they decided to do another patch of cover and use black plastic on this area.

On April 19, Kevin Avery, Peter Garvey and Jim Ruff spread the last section with two layers of the poly. The knotweed is growing rapidly and taken over the whole park.

Buoys – Jim Ruff sent an email to Robert Somes (and others) requesting assistance in either getting more buoys or advice on who to reach out to. Kathy Clark replied that there were two buoys in the yard at Tuckahoe. Robert Somes also advised “The other option would be if someone wanted to pick up some of the smaller orange marine buoys to have in between the current barrels depending on what it will take to get the drums out there. They will need chain and some substantial anchors to hold them in place if they

don't already have them. We made anchors before by filling spackling buckets with concrete. We could use the three current barrels to anchor the two sides and the channel and have the smaller buoys in between to fill in the gap. If we make the buffer a little smaller and fill in the gaps I think we would be good. We might be able to get some smaller buoys out there quicker to fill in the gaps. Just some ideas.”

Grants – Harry Menta read an ANJEC email about open space grants. He wondered if it was something that could be used for a possible cross country trail. Harry will try to put something together regarding a $\frac{3}{4}$ mile loop cross country trail.

Karen Riede previously sent an email with various info for the EC, which included: Ridgefield's town wide clean-up day on April 26. Teams will be on Bell Drive that day; Mother's Day Bird walk, a draft proposal for Bald Eagle Awareness Day on Sunday, May 4 from 2-4 p.m. Meet at the Ridgefield Pistol Range (beige bldg.) on Bell Drive. Scope will be set up on the Overpeck Nest (They thought that the word rally should not be used.)

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 22, 2014, at **7:30 p.m.**

The meeting ended at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara DeLuca