

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2013

MINUTES OF THE RP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MARCH 28, 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, Linda Quinn and Gene Hammond. Also present were: Cynde Hammond and the two girl scouts working on their Gold Badge, Erin Conversano and Ariana.

The minutes of the February 28, 2013, meeting was approved.

Old Business: Steve Quinn is working on illustrations for the signs. Kevin Avery will work on text for the sign. Steve will be able to devote more time to the illustrations once he retires in March.

NYRA – There doesn't appear to be any activity at the site.

Dock – Peter Garvey has heard no further information on the dock

Eagles – Jim Ruff sent a letter to Langan on March 8 to find out if there is a remedial action plan for this property yet. He received a lengthy reply dated March 13, 2013. They attached a few things to their response. One of the attachments was a copy of a letter dated November 16, 2012, from their environmental counsel, Neil Yoskin, which forwarded a letter report from Langan dated November 16, 2012. They did try to initially get a "take permit" but it was not granted immediately. There will be a meeting on Tuesday at 9:30 a.m.

Kevin Avery and Steve Quinn had attended a meeting on January 23 to discuss the latest information regarding the eagle nest. Kevin felt they had walked away from the meeting with their pledge to consider the notions of the Environmental Commission not to remove the nest. They would need a federal permit to remove the tree. Eagles are protected federally but they are not endangered.

Sarah Nystrom is the representative of the US Fish & Wildlife Service-NE Region that Langan had contacted. The EC discussed that maybe the EC should also be writing to Sarah Nystrom concerning the nest. Now that the nest is active, nothing can be done at this time. The EC told them at the last meeting that they felt that you could go closer to the nest without disturbing the eagles because they are used to activity around the nest. They are proposing clearing the area and going within 100 ft. The problem is the DEP is at odds with itself. One side says you can't go that close, the other side says you can go closer.

They actually found DDT at the site. The fear of the EC is the conceptual design will be a nesting platform. Steve Quinn and Kevin Avery will attend this April 2 meeting. The EC said that it would rather see them go closer even if the eagles decided they did not want to use the nest anymore. They would rather see the eagles make the decision.

Jim Ruff brought Resolution No. 2013-1 Protection of Eagle Nest for member's signatures. Linda Quinn will get Steve's signature and return the resolution to Barbara DeLuca so it can be submitted to the Mayor and Board of Commissioners.

A motion was made by Jim Ruff and seconded by Kevin Avery that the resolution be signed as written. All were in favor of this motion.

Harry Menta advised that the girl scouts met with Commissioner John Anlian on Monday. John Anlian will be the liaison to the DPW and Commissioner MacNeill. Ariana will be planting plants at Vogt Park. At

Earth Day she will have a display about her project and educating the community. She will ask the DPW if they have any gardening tools she can borrow for her project.

Erin said that Commissioner Anlian told her it was too early to put up a sign but she will continue with the clean-up. He suggested planning some flowers around the tree at the end of the nature path. She wanted to work at the nature preserve. The bicycle path is blocked with debris. John Anlian said the ideal time for planting would be the fall. It would really help a lot to do this planting. She wants to clean the nature path for her gold award.

New Business: Weather permitting, the EC is hoping to spend a couple of hours at the nature preserve on Saturday, April 6 at 1:00 pm. Members need to re-stake some trees and spread some mulch. Jim Ruff will contact the DPW to see if they have anything useful to fix the trees.

Future Activities: Earth Day 2013 is scheduled for April 13, 2013. High tide is 11:48 a.m. that day. The following were contacted about participating in Earth Day:

NJ Batman	Teaneck Creek Conservancy
Frank Vincenti of Wild Dog Foundation	Overpeck Preserve
Tenaflly Nature Center	Flat Rock Brook Nature Preserve
Snakes n Scales	Puffin Group
Wallaby Tales (Eyes Wild)	Risky Business Band
Lenape Indians	Hudson River Fisherman
Facepainter	Wanda Canoe Club
Boy Scout Troop 3	Library
Supt. Christopher Onorato	DPW
Police Dept.	Ambulance Corp.
Rescue Squad	BCUA
Bergen County Audubon Society	Board of Health
Cub Scouts	Bruce Herrick
Cosmic Wheel	Fire Dept.
Gil Hawkins	Girl Scouts
NJ Meadowlands	OEM
Pete Plucino, Mosquito Control	Shade Tree Commission
Bill Sheehan	Environmental Club

The following have accepted the invitation to date:

NJ Batman
 Tenaflly Nature Center (contract received)
 Snakes –n Scales (contract received)
 Wallaby Tales (Eyes Wild) (contract received)
 Angel – Facepainter
 Risky Business Band (contract received)
 Shade Tree Commission
 Girls Scouts – Janine LaValle and Peggy Conversano are the reps.
 Cub Scouts – Fran Orovitz is the rep
 Police Dept.
 Bergen County Audubon
 Hackensack Riverkeeper – no canoes, just manning table
 Lenape Lifeways (contract received)
 Wanda Canoe Club – (too early for canoes)
 Troop 3 Scouts – Lisa Infantino is the rep and will handle the food.

Shows will be scheduled as follows:

11:30 a.m. Wallaby Tales - Eyes Wild
 12:30 p.m. Tenaflly Nature Center
 1:30 p.m. NJ Batman
 2:30 p.m. Snakes –n Scales
 Lenape Lifeways will be a continuous show throughout the day.

The updated banner is already hanging over Main Street. The schools were advised that posters are not necessary this year. There is no place to display the posters. Flyers will go out in the schools.

There is work being done by the high school. The EC will ask Commissioner Anlian if he knows what is happening.

The Village Gardeners are planting on Saturday.

Lind Quinn will check on a day for the next bird walk. She is thinking of May 4 but will get back to the EC with a firm date.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 25, 2013.

The meeting ended at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara DeLuca