

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2016 AT 7:30 P.M.

**MINUTES OF THE RP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
JANUARY 28, 2016**

Peter Garvey 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 31st day of December, 2015. Members present were: Kevin Avery and Peter Garvey. Commissioner John Anlian was also present.

The minutes of the October 22, 2015, meeting could not be approved as there was no quorum. There was no meeting in November or December.

Correspondence received: copy of signed Order dated January 8, 2016, granting the Challenger Road Defendants' motion to intervene

Old Business:

Interpretive Signs – Signs are in and should be installed in the spring.

Bird Count - Kevin Avery and Peter Garvey ran the bird count on December 12.

New Business:

Sustainable Jersey program - The link for the program is www.sustainablejersey.com. In order to participate, RP must, by resolution, appoint a Green Team. All members of the EC should be on the Green Team.

The Village needs to do a resolution and appoint members of the Green Team. It will then be easier to divide up the necessary requirements so that RP can get credit for many of the activities that it already does. There are projects such as the eradication of the knotweed, the nature preserve, eagle protection, public education, Earth Day, school projects, animal shows, etc., that just need to be documented so that proper credit can be given to RP so it earns the necessary 150 points. The goal is to be able to submit the application for 2016.

A copy of the 2015 Sustainable Jersey Master Action Tracking Spreadsheet was be given to the members and Commissioner Anlian to familiarize themselves with possible submissions. Deadline is June 2016.

Peter Garvey advised the Board that he will be moving out of Ridgefield Park in March and that next month is most likely his last meeting as a regular member.

Commissioner Anlian said the EC needs to reach out to look for people interested in becoming active members and/or associates to help out with future activities. He would like to see something in the next newsletter looking for new members. Commissioner Anlian will reach out to a few people to see if they know anyone who might be interested in assisting the EC.

Commissioner Anlian said he will contact Jim Ruff to see if he can get the best day for high tide so Earth Day 2016 can be scheduled. The EC will change up a few things to make the day a little different. It will reach out to the local 4H Club as well as Rutgers Cooperative to see if they would like to participate in the celebration. They have hosted booths in the County Park in the past. The EC will also reach out to Mad Science to see about them having a program at the event as well.

The meeting ended at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara DeLuca