

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2011

**MINUTES OF THE RP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
APRIL 28, 2011**

Chairman James Ruff called the meeting to order at 7:15 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 29th day of December, 2010. Members present were: James Ruff, Linda Quinn and Steve Quinn. Also present at the meeting was Kevin Avery, Peter Garvey and Jules Rotella.

The minutes of the February 29, 2008, and January 28, 2010, meetings were approved.

Jim Ruff advised that he checked and found out that high tide will be at 1:00 p.m. on May 7. Earth Day would be scheduled from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. There is no rain date. It will be held in the DPW in the event of rain.

Madelaine Cappuccio made reservations for the shows on this date. Letters were sent inviting the various organizations and schools to participate. The Quinns will check to make sure the boy scouts can handle the food again this year. The budget for food is about \$300.00.

Letters were sent to:

BCUA	Ambulance	Board of Health
Cosmic Wheel	DPW	Supt. Onorato
Boy Scouts Troop 3	Cub Scouts	Girl Scouts
Library	Matt McArrow	NJ Meadowlands
OEM	Mosquito Commission	Wanda Canoe Club
Bill Sheehan	Shade Tree Commission	Sergio Radossi
Police Dept.	Fire Dept.	Environmental Club
Bruce Herrick		

The Commission has confirmation from Boy Scouts, Bill Sheehan, Shade Tree Commission, Wanda Canoe Club and Sergio Radossi. The RPJSHS Environmental Club will not be participating this year. The other organizations did not respond to their invitation. Shows will be provided by Lenape Indians (all day), Wallaby tales (11 a.m. -12 p.m.) Snakes N Scales (12-1 pm. Sharks) and Tenafly Nature Center (1-2 p.m. Raptors). The facepainter will be there for the entire day as well. Flyers will be sent out in the schools. Notice was sent to the Patriot and the Village website as well as the Community Message Board.

Risky Business Bluegrass Band was unavailable. Dr. Dubious & the Agnostics Band will provide the music. A letter was received from Logan O'Brien to play at the Earth Day Celebration. A letter will be sent advising that the band has already been hired but thanking them for the offer.

Jim Ruff explained the purpose of the Environmental Commission to the visitors at the meeting. He explained he would like to see the Commission become active again and that it needed more members to accomplish this. The Commission should consist of five regular members and two alternate members. There are several openings right now on the Commission.

Steve Quinn said that there are nesting eagles in Ridgefield Park. Last Monday he took his daughter to see them and noticed a crew team with a motor boat alongside it. He is concerned the motor boat is too close to the eagles and will disturb them. Jim Ruff will call the Hackensack Riverkeeper and Hugh Corola today to discuss this. Motor boats are not permitted in the water.

Linda Quinn said she will get an update on the nature preserve for the Commission. John Anlian will be asked to attend the next meeting to discuss the nature preserve.

The Commission discussed some possible activities it could organize next year. Some suggestions were: Christmas bird count, fall hawk count, butterfly walk, tree talk, bird talk. These activities could be advertised in the newsletter, community message board, internet. The Environmental Commission could start a RP Nature Association where people could join in for monthly meetings at the library, for instance, and maybe have a monthly program or local field trips where the focus is just RP.

The Commission said it might be time to update the environmental inventory done several years ago.

The Commission thinks it would be a good idea to send out a meeting agenda the week before a meeting and hold meetings for one hour monthly. The visitors said they will think about joining the Commission.

The next meeting is scheduled is for Thursday, May 26, 2011.

The meeting ended at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara DeLuca