

**NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2017 AT 7:30 P.M.
(IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE GREEN TEAM MEETING)**

**MINUTES OF THE RP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
October 26, 2017**

Chairman Steve Quinn called the meeting to order at 7:35 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 published in The Record and sent to the Star Ledger as well as posted on the Village bulletin board. Members present were: Harry Menta, Leslie Olson, Mark Olson, Linda Quinn, Steve Quinn. Not Present: Peggy Conversano, Guillermo Lopez-Acosta, Joseph D'Angeli, Gloria Rivera, Jin Ah Jong, James Ruff. Non-members Present: Sergio Radossi. Commissioner John Anlian was present at the end of the meeting.

Hearing of Citizens: None.

A motion was made by Leslie Olson and seconded by Mark Olson, approving the minutes of the September 28, 2017, meeting. All were in favor of the motion.

Approval of Bills: No new bills were submitted.

Correspondence: copy of Resolution appointing Asai MasChang an Associate Member.

Old Business:

Fishing Derby: The date has been set for November 4 with a rain date of November 5. It will be held at Riverfront Park from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Sergio Radossi said he has seven or eight volunteers and should have enough tackle for 50. Sergio asked the HFRA to bring enough for 50 people. There is no way to have more than 50 fish at that location at one time anyway. Bait is already lined up. Sergio will have 500 earthworms available.

Members should be there by 9:00 a.m. for set-up. Steve Quinn will send out two emails. The first email is to ask for as many volunteers as possible to come to Riverfront Park to clean up. Steve has already sent an email to Alan O'Grady to ask him to help clean and prepare the park for the fishing derby. Steve met with John Anlian and Mike Monroe, who has assured him that he will clean out most of the vegetation on the river bank to make it more accessible for kids. The first memo will be to join Steve Quinn to do a general clean up prior to the fishing derby on Friday. Sergio said to copy him on that memo. Clean-up will be at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, November 3.

The banner is hanging on Main Street. One of the banners is too big the DPW advised. Steve Quinn spoke with Reidel Sign Company and they will make a smaller banner to fit on Main Street.

Steve said he has asked the DPW to provide 10 folding tables and 20 folding chairs. Steve said that the Hudson Riverkeeper will have a table and interactives for kids. Liz Jackson asked Steve when he could come out to Pequest to pick up goody bags. Steve also asked the DPW if they could please make the dock off limits. It is too dangerous for kids to walk on. Sergio suggested having just a rope with a sign that says "off limits".

Sergio explained a little bit about how the day works. The volunteers assume that kids don't know anything. They do their best to give some instructions. They will cast the bait most of the time. They always offer hands-on assistance because they don't want any hands getting hooked. They let the kids reel in the fish. There is a group that fixes problems for the kids fishing.

The second memo will go to all members asking them to be at this event. They should be available as an ambassador for the EC and wear their shirts.

There are always tags on hand to tag and release fish. The person gets a copy of the tag info and where it was returned and caught. Their name goes in a book.

Sergio recommended that the Ambulance Corps provide an EMT. Steve spoke with Hugo Poli, who assured him they will have an EMT present.

Possible prizes for the event are a pizza pie. There will be gift certificates. Prizes can be for largest, most fish, most unusual catch, strangest fish.

Sergio said that they will have some refurbished rods available to give away. They will give them out to the kids.

Mark Olson checked on having wi-fi available and was told Steve has the password. A volunteer will be needed to handle registration for people over 16. Mark and Leslie Olson will handle this.

Sergio said this registration impacts grants the State gets. The saltwater registration helps the State get money back. It helps feed the marine recreational program, AMRIP so they can set quotes so it will be bio-sustainable waters. EC members should be encouraged to bring tape measures. The EC should maintain a notebook where everyone signs in and they can mark down in the notebook next to their name the size of their fish.

Troop 3 will handle the food. Steve plans on buying pizza for the workers. They do not need to purchase any paper products because Mark Olson still has some leftover from Earth Day. Troop 3 will be told to get 150 hot dogs and buns, chips and 125 beverages (water and soda).

The EC should try to get as many volunteers as possible. Last event someone took a tumble. Need as many people as possible to guide people and lend a hand to people walking up the bank. There should always be someone within an arm's length of a child.

HRFA will have mounts of fish for people to see. John Anlian will be asked if he can take pictures during the day.

The 2018 meeting dates are fine. The November meeting will be held on the fifth Thursday, November 30. Meetings will start at 7:00 p.m. next year.

Sergio asked if the EC ever thought about installing a beehive and Mark said they were thinking of having honeybees at McGowan Park and native bees at Fellowship Park.

Nature Trail: The project is moving forward. The EC will encumber funds for the trail.

Green Business Seal: Katelyn McGirk drew a proposed seal for businesses recognized by the Green Team or EC. Mark thinks it should come from the EC so as not to confuse people.

Mark said he has looked into information on Terracycle. It is free recycling programs for things like beach plastic, clean-ups, water bottles. There is another group of recyclables that you pay for such as alkaline batteries. You pay for the box. It might give the GT credit for the Village recycling above and beyond. Mark is going to give the info to Alan O'Grady to discuss at the next meeting. He will ask him to review it and give his comments. The GT needs to pick some things that are easy to accomplish.

Linda Quinn said that this week the DPW took down a tree on Central Avenue and Main Street where a colony of flying squirrels was living. It is remarkable that RP was able to support a colony of flying squirrels because there are some necessary things for this to occur such as having appropriate food available.

The next regular meeting will be **November 30, 2017**, at 7:30 p.m. or immediately following the Green Team meeting.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mark Olson and seconded by Leslie Olson adjourning the meeting at 8:45 p.m. All were in favor of this motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara DeLuca