



LIBERTY TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Regular Meeting Minutes May 16, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:13 pm by the Chair in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Roll

Present: Chair Phil Wooldridge, Doug Hankin, Rich Larsen, first alternate Diane Gonski, second alternate Helen Danitz

Absent: Dan Kurela, Joanne Ward, Tom Webster, Maureen Bonner

Public Comment Discussion ensued regarding the closing of Liberty School.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of March 18, 2019 were approved by a motion by Diane Gonski, seconded by Rich Larsen. All in favor.

Communications None.

Old Business

TREX Plastic Challenge: First drop-off for second bench was two cars full of plastic, totaling 389.6 lbs. Thanks to Diane and Doug for their continued support. The first bench will be placed and dedicated at Central School garden on May 23. The Commission discussed putting the second bench location up to public vote. A third bench will go to the Free Union Methodist Church. Discussion continued regarding success of plastic recycling and Phil Wooldridge shared an update to recycling plastic bottles – the caps can be left on now.

Fish Habitat at Mountain Lake: No update as to the install date. The porcupine crib will be brought out to Community Day for public view and education. Roger Skoog mentioned an interest in donating some additional cribs to support the project. Shannon will connect Cal and Mr. Skoog to discuss further and will follow up with Pat Hamilton about the project moving forward.

Tree Giveaway: Gave out about 250 silky dogwood seedlings. About 150 remain. Discussion ensued regarding planting the saplings along the bank by the brown garage at Mountain Lake Beach. This is a site approval was already received and support from Public Works was received. The Commission selected May 26 from 9-11 am as the planting date.

ANJEC Grant: The grant was approved! Discussion took place regarding the garden prep party. Members asked to save cardboard. Doug will contact a tree company about getting wood chips donated. Hopefully we can coordinate this to take place on May 26 as well.

New Business

Community Day 2019: Set up is at 2:30pm. Members will assist with games and crafts at the Firehouse. A table with literature will be set up by the tent to provide public education. Reusable sandwich wrappers will be community giveaway at the table, as well as the usual literature about nonpoint source pollution, wildlife, natural garden management, pest alerts, etc.

Environmental Commission Photo Collection: Discussed creating a photo album for the website about nature, wildlife, projects from the Commission and photographs of the town. Members encouraged to share pictures with Shannon for online album.

Commission Member Reports: Phil reported on attending the Green Fair in Hope. Great event with lots of good vendors.

Expenditures: None

Commissioner and Public Comments: Resident shared information from the NorthWest New Jersey River Conference in Hackettstown. Shared information regarding grant funds available to towns who are in compliance with the Highlands Act.

Discussion ensued regarding the North Woods Lake and plans for the dam. Commission is requesting an update to the project. Shannon will follow-up.

Adjournment: 8:14 pm

Approved 6/20/19