

June 21, 2017

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission of the Borough of Roosevelt was held on Wednesday, June 21, 2017 at 7:03 P.M at the Borough Hall. Chairperson Eitan Grunwald presided and called the Roll.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Bettel, Bonna, Grunwald, Hartley, Tulloss, Walz,  
Felong (Alt-1), Ticktin (Alt-2)

Absent: Murray

Chairperson Eitan Grunwald stated: "Let the minutes show that adequate notice of this meeting as required by Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 of the Open Public Meetings Law has been provided by posting notices on the public bulletin boards at the Roosevelt Post Office and Borough Hall. A copy of this notice was e-mailed to the Asbury Park Press and the Times [Trenton] for publication and filed with the Borough Clerk on January 23, 2017."

**AGENDA CHANGE:**

Chairperson Eitan Grunwald called for a change to this evening's Agenda because Ms. Stacey Bonna must leave early, but would like to give her report. This Agenda Change was unanimously accepted by the members and the meeting will then be returned to its regular order.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND PROJECTS:**

Trail Signs - Ms. Stacy Bonna reported that Ms. Mary Tulloss was kind enough to take photos of the new sign to be posted at the Trail entrances showing the Ordinance number to warn people that ATV's (motorized vehicles) should not be on the Trail. Ms. Bonna suggested that she could make the sheets smaller, so they can be stapled. Mr. Ticktin cautioned that the fine must be in the Ordinance for us to post it. The wording can say "fine up to \$1,250". The Ordinance will be rechecked before action is taken. Mr. Ticktin will be contacted.

The meeting was returned to regular order.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion was made by Ms. Mary Tulloss and second by Mr. Michael Ticktin that the minutes of May 24, 2017 be accepted. It was noted that on page 21 under New/Other Business: Recommendations re Landscaping Code, lines 1, 6-7, change "Mr. Ticktin" to read "*Ms. Mary Tulloss*". These minutes were accepted unanimously with this change. Ms. Battel abstained.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:**

Mr. Tim Hartley reported the Planning Board talked about Re-examination Report priorities of recommendations made for moving forward, some of which would require funding, which won't happen soon. The Board felt the two issues that don't require funding will be something the Board can spend more time with. This Board had discussion about **storage problems** on many properties (barns, sheds), etc. They discussed "aging in place", about allowing **sub domiciles on properties** when older or younger family members reside on the same property. This idea is looked at more in other countries than here. Last evening they had a meeting about **approval of a storage structure on Lake Drive** because it exceeded the square feet limit; it was approved. Mr. Ticktin added that older family members residing on property is called "**granny plats**" in Australia. It is like a "temporary" structure that could be removed later. Their thought is to help families not to have their older folks go into nursing homes.

**REPORT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE:**

Mr. Michael Ticktin reported the **Council approved the Community Forest Management Plan (CFMP)**. Wildlife will also be supported.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND PROJECTS (Continued):**

Forest Management - Chair Grunwald also mentioned that our Borough Council has **approved the Community Forest Management Plan (CFMP)** and it has now been submitted and received by the Community Forestry Program of the NJS Forestry Service, and passed on to the NJS Forestry Council for their review. They will get back to us for comments/revisions/questions. We hope to get approval by the NJS Forester before September 31, so we can apply for grants and work in 2018. We do not want to lose a year.

Invasive Plant Species - Ms. Sharyn Walz reported that Mr. Steve Taylor is working on a draft policy for the Borough. This was mentioned in our e-mail and tabled to the next meeting. **Planting of the Butterfly Garden is done**; we had plenty of volunteers and some rain. They finally distributed our milkweed plants that were from 4<sup>th</sup> of July last year. She has seen Steve Taylor's wheel for the **4<sup>th</sup> of July**; it is amazing, red, white and blue, on its own stand. It even makes a "clicking" sound as it goes around. Kim is working on a **wheel game** with three sets of questions that will have point value (difficult, moderate, easy) responding to the red, white, and blue. This recognizes that the children are at different levels, will spin and all will get prizes. There are a few items from last year. This year they will use Oriental Trading to purchase trinkets for the children to win. We have some lovely bookmarks for the adults. Motion was made by Ms. Mary Tulloss and Ms. Beth Battel to allot \$35 for the trinkets and small stuff to give away as prizes. This was approved. Ms. Walz is checking the actual time for our 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration at our local school. Because we have to staff our table, Ms. Walz asked our members to volunteers to rotate working. As usual, there will be hot dogs etc., so our timing should be between 11:30 – 2:30/3:00.



Stream Monitoring/Restoration - Ms. Mary Tulloss reported they met as planned for monitoring on Saturday, June 17, but the weather looked stormy, so they will hold it this coming Saturday, June 24. They will meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Borough Hall. Andrew Garcia, our Watershed Ambassador, will be here.

Trail Update - Chair Eitan Grunwald reported that Mr. Nicholas Murray has been working on **punchions** in the area between Tamara and Pine Drives. Chair Grunwald had reported a tree that fell some time ago and was suspended over the Trail between North Valley and Rochdale. It has been removed. He noticed some **fallen trees** between Tamara and Pine Drive on neighboring Assunpink property. He contacted them and they came and dealt with them.

Regarding the **kiosk**, this is a 3-way partnership (Roosevelt, Assunpink and the Park Service) and it will be placed at the end of Pine Drive. Assunpink is prepared to do the labor; but they do not design it, so we need information to submit a budget request. This could take a while. Also there is an Eagle Scout who wants to build the kiosk as a project and he will get the funding for it. Then we do not have to pay for the Pine Drive kiosk. Chair Grunwald added that we might have the option of another kiosk in a second location, perhaps near our cemetery but on Assunpink property. Mr. Ticktin agreed that this is a good location. Question was if we need a second kiosk? There would be an extra sign and there might be more traffic, as a regional trails map would be at that second kiosk. Also many people do not walk the entire Trail. At this point we need confirmation if the Scout can fund and do this work at the Pine Drive kiosk. We have \$2,400 left that must be spent by May 2018. This money has already been allocated and the kiosk project approved. We are to pay for the materials to build one kiosk. Assunpink will provide the labor. Mr. Hartley said he has seen neat maps in other states etched into a metal plate and posted. Nice but expensive. Chair Grunwald said Trail maps are online. But there is **no map that shows connection between Roosevelt Woodland Trail and the Rocky Brook Trail**. It was noted that Diane Lowrie, our neighbor, works for the Park Service and can give us input. Ms. Beth Battel asked what the kiosk would look like. Chair Grunwald said there is a similar kiosk at the Agress Road entrance; it has the same roof and maybe some Plexiglas. Also Mr. Hartley reported, per Chair Grunwald's request, that he looked at the **bridge with a bank eroding problem on the east side of Rochdale Avenue**. He wasn't quite sure of the problem, if it was the slight eroding of the embankment or stability of the structure and making people feel safer. Chair Grunwald explained that the bridge had been further to the side and the bank was eroding away. Nick Murray lifted it while doing repairs and moved it more at an angle. It now seems stable and safe enough. There was a question if we should treat it as a proper bridge and have a handrail on it for safety, especially for children. Mr. Hartley suggested that maybe it could be elaborated upon, and he will work on a solution. Chair Grunwald said this work would be covered by the Trail monies we have.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Sustainable Jersey - Chair Grunwald reported that we have submitted our **Application for Bronze Certification** to Sustainable Jersey and now we are waiting to hear from them, hopefully by July. Some of the items we submitted were incomplete, but we have until November. (Refer to Page 17 of the April 19, 2017 minutes)

**NEW/OTHER BUSINESS:** None

**PUBLIC:**

Ms. Rainy Hartley had an observation to make as she was with her husband, Tim Hartley, when he went to check the bridge with the bank eroding problem on the east side of Rochdale Avenue. It seemed to her that it was continuing to erode underneath the wooden bridge, so she thought if it were longer, so it would span more of the dirt, it would not sink down.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

No further business, on motion by Mr. Michael Ticktin and second by Ms. Kimberly Felong, this meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Attest:

  
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Ann M. Kassahun