

CORRECTED

November 15, 2017

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission of the Borough of Roosevelt was held on Wednesday, November 15, 2017 at 7:00 P.M at the Borough Hall. Chairperson Eitan Grunwald presided and called the Roll.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: None

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."

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was made by Ms. Beth Battel and second by Ms. Kim Felong that the minutes of October 18, 2017 be accepted. It was noted that on page 33, line 2, "September" should be changed to "October". On page 34, under Council Representative, first paragraph, line 1, "websight" should be "website". Under Committees and Projects, Forest Management, line 3, "Mr. T. Winkler, and Ms. M. Warner" should read "Mr. Peter Winkler, and Ms. Melissa Warner"; line 14 "Fragmites" should read "Phragmites". Also on page 34, last paragraph, lines 1 and 10 change "core" to "CORE". Line 2, change "illegible" to "eligible". These minutes were accepted unanimously with these corrections. There were no abstentions.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:

Mr. Tim Hartley reported that there was no meeting earlier this month; there will be a meeting at the beginning of December. He summarized the activity between the Environmental Commission and the Planning Board by reviewing the correspondence between our respective Chairmen. The Planning Board Resolution to incorporate the 2015 **Environmental Resources Inventory (ERI)** into the Master Plan was passed by the Planning Board. The memorialized copy to Sustainable Jersey still has to be submitted by November 19, which is probably not going to happen, or before the end of the year at the latest. Our Attorney, who will be bringing the memorialized copy for approval to the December 5 meeting, is pretty reliable; so it probably will be memorialized at that meeting. This is related to getting the bronze certification which we already have. Chair Grunwald added that we owe Sustainable Jersey this documentation. They will stay on top of this.

REPORT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE:

Mr. Nick Murray reported that at the last Council Meeting on October 23rd, he brought before them the Environmental Commission's recommendation to **rename the Woodland Trail**. It was recommended by the Borough's Attorney that we draft a Resolution and submit it to the Council to discuss and vote on at the next meeting, Mr. Murray drafted the Resolution and it was to be discussed and voted on, but the meeting was cancelled, so he assumes it will be on the Agenda for their next meeting. He doesn't think he will be on the Council at that time. He may talk about it at the public comment portion of the meeting before Resolutions are discussed. He understands that it was distributed in the Agenda packet before the last scheduled Council meeting. There is an issue with the wording in the Resolution, not what he drafted; it got changed along the way. He originally drafted it to say the **Ron Filepp Roosevelt Woodland Trail**. It was edited and distributed saying the **Roosevelt Ron Filepp Woodland Trail**. He will try to get to the bottom of why it was changed.

Chair Grunwald said it raises the question of whether there will be a **Council Representative on the Environmental Commission**. There might not be; it is not required. It has been practiced and it has coincided. His opinion is that anyone who comes on the Environmental Commission should meet two primary qualifications: care about the Environment of Roosevelt and are willing to work. If someone from the Council volunteers or is appointed by the Mayor to serve on the Environmental Commission, he hopes it will be someone who will contribute to this Commission.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND PROJECTS:

Forest Management - Chair Eitan Grunwald and Member Nick Murray attended **CORE** training on October 19. They both graduated and have their certificates. Roosevelt must keep two people with this training to have "approved status" to be eligible to apply for grants next year to implement our Forest Plan. Chair Grunwald explained how this works. He is moving from Roosevelt and Member Nick Murray must be an "elected official", was on the Council, but not re-elected. Nick can be a "community volunteer". We need more CORE trained people quick. Chair Grunwald will try to do our paperwork to complete this present phase. The **next training will be in April** and the Borough Council needs to send people for this training to keep us eligible; we need to train more folks quickly. (See October 18 Minutes on Forest Management for more information)

Invasive Species – Mr. Steve Taylor reported that on Sunday, November 5, they **planted various local species** on Spruce Lane *Butterfly Park*. He informed us that they can plant as long as the ground is not frozen. They still have some **Red Buds** that need a home. Also they are trying to replace some dead trees.

Stream Monitoring/Restoration - Ms. Mary Tulloss reported that it is too cold to do monitoring of the stream. Spring is the earliest we can monitor; but June is when Jane Rothfuss, who has expertise in monitoring, is available. She inquired if Mr. Steve Taylor was able to check/recognize the plants growing in the area between Rt. 571 and Tamara Drive in the area

where the puncheons are. He said that they looked like Cat Tails which is all right. Ms. Tulloss mentioned that Resident Mary Macher had saved a lot of seeds from her **Milk Weed** plant. She forgot to bring them this evening for our members. Mr. Taylor explained that they could be kept in wet, cold paper towels for about a month; then they will sprout. They can be planted later in better weather, this Spring. Ms. Tulloss said she will bring them to our meeting for our members to further the process.

Trail Update - Chair Eitan Grunwald reported that he has heard from the Boy Scout, who is working on the **kiosk**, that he has completed the frame and is preparing where it will be planted before the ground gets frozen. This is at the end of Pine Drive Extension **near our Sewer Plant**. Chair Grunwald is now pushing them for information (a materials list and costs), so he can prepare a **Budget Revision Request** for a **second kiosk** with the remaining monies. This is another loose end he would like finished.

Member Nicholas Murray had noticed a **broken puncheon** in the Route 571 and Tamara Drive section of the Trail that needs fixing. He will fix it within the next week; he believes we have some materials left over to do it. Chair Grunwald was contacted by a local person, Mr. Sam *Ashburner*, who is interested in helping with the Trail. Member Nick Murray will be in touch with him.

OLD BUSINESS:

Succession Planning – Chair Grunwald said that his resignation is effective December 31. He is going down to Florida on December 20. He would like to turn the files over and do some briefing with someone that should be briefed, **pass on information**. Ms. Tulloss mentioned that it seems that Diane Lowrie is considering returning to this Commission, as she has been the Chairperson in the past. He said he has informed the Council of his time line. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair can conduct a meeting. Mr. Ticktin added that the Mayor can make appointments at the Re-organization meeting. He said that he will put together a **“To Do” list** of what should be done and the timing; there are many **deadlines**.

He wants to clarify a comment he made at the last meeting about how many hours he put in as Chairperson. He said “averaging 10 to 15”. That is **not the time required** to be the Chair of this Commission. He was thinking of the past several years that this was the time he put in. Much of that has been dealing with projects that are not necessarily incumbent upon this year. If he were to split it out, he would say he was more involved with the **Environmental Resources Inventory and Sustainable Jersey**. Although he did not take the lead with the **Trail** work or the Trail grant, he did a lot of administrative backstopping.

He added that there are projects that each of our members have been involved with (**Invasive Species, Stream Monitoring, the Trail**) that do not have to run with the Chairperson. **Forest Management** is the big thing right now. If there were **grants** to be applied for, he was able to write grants and then respond to the agencies, but this doesn't have to be done by the Chair. We are not doing an **ERI** or **Sustainable Jersey** again. He said that the volume of work would

depend on how ambitious the Commission wants to be. There is not a lot asked of this Commission. The biggest role he had to play was the intermediary between the Commission and the Council. He attended Council meetings. Chair Grunwald explained that there are choices how ambitious a Chairperson wants to be. There are **deadlines to meet**, but he did not take the lead with the Trail work; he did a lot of dealing with projects like Sustainable Jersey.

PUBLIC:

Mr. Bob Clark, 59 Lake Drive, stated that on behalf of the Public, he thanked Chair Eitan Grunwald for all his work with the Environmental Commission and especially involving the Public to participate in the meetings, which he has seen firsthand. Everyone clapped.

Mr. Rod Tulloss, 21 Lake Drive, said that he has watched the Environmental Commission over decades and feels that this current Commission has done a wonderful job. He thanked Chair Eitan for being a great leader. Everyone clapped.

NEW/OTHER BUSINESS:

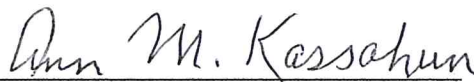
Member Nicholas Murray presented a plaque to departing Chair Grunwald which read: "With greatest appreciation we present Eitan Grunwald with this award in recognition for your dedicated service to the Roosevelt Environmental Commission. November 2017" Chair Eitan said "it was moments like these, he is at a loss for words, will let his actions speak for him. He would be amiss if he didn't say how much this has meant to me." He thanked this "wonderful group of people" Everyone clapped.

This Commission appreciated the many challenges that Chair Grunwald dealt with and how he was a great leader. He will be greatly missed, but everyone wishes him well in his new life.

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business, on motion by Mr. Michael Ticktin and second by Ms. Kim Felong, this meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Attest:


Ann M. Kassahun