

C O R R E C T E D

September 26, 2018

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission of the Borough of Roosevelt was held on Wednesday, September 26, 2018, at 7:05 P.M. at the Borough Hall. The Roll was called by Chairperson Michael Ticktin. He mentioned that Ms. Felong and Mr. Parker are being appointed Regular Members by our Mayor leaving the two Alternate positions vacant.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Felong, Hartley, Monteleone, Ticktin, Tulloss

Absent: Murray, Parker, Alt 1 - vacant Alt 2 - vacant

ADEQUATE PUBLIC NOTICE OF MEETING STATEMENT:

To show that proper notice of this meeting has been given, Chairperson Michael Ticktin stated that the minutes indicate: "Adequate notice of this meeting, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, was published in the Times of Trenton and in the Asbury Park Press, and posted at the Borough Bulletin Boards and the Roosevelt Post Office on February 6, 2018."

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE AGENDA: None**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

Motion was made by Ms. Mary Tulloss and second by Ms. Heidi Monteleone to approve this evening's Agenda. This Agenda was accepted unanimously by the members present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was made by Ms. Mary Tulloss and second by Mr. Tim Hartley to **approve** the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on **August 15, 2018** with the following corrections: On **Page 23** under Roll Call, Ms. Felong and Ms. Monteleone were listed Present, but were not at the meeting, should be changed to "Absent" and on **Page 25** in the third paragraph, near the end of line 7, word "maximum" should be "**minimum**". On **Page 26**, line 10 from the top, sentence should read "Ms. Tulloss has contact with East Windsor's ...and will talk with us." Omit other words near end of this sentence. Also on **Page 26** under Public Comments, Sentence should read "Another problem is mosquitos." Take out other words. Next sentence change "**upon** the creek" to "**up in** the creek". Take out the last sentence. . These minutes were unanimously approved with these corrections.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:

Mr. Tim Hartley reported that the Planning Board met on September 4. Their Attorney, Michelle Donato, spoke on Land Use Law Liability. She cautioned that Boards have to be careful, as they have been sued. Other municipalities have referred to Roosevelt because we handled applicants fairly. We are on the books for doing the “right thing”. The *Planning Board* went over the possibility of *revisiting* the Parking Ordinance. The new **Zoning Officer is Mr. Jeremy Kuipers**.

REPORT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE:

Mr. Parker was not present this evening, however our Chairman Ticktin attended this meeting. He reported that the Council is looking at the idea of demolishing the **old gas station**. His suggestion is that we should advise them to *keep the foundation*. *Not doing so* would re-open the DEP situation and *necessitate new inspections*.” We have mediation approval now, leave it alone. Chair Ticktin called for a formal **Resolution** if the building is to be demolished, second by Mr. Tim Hartley. This was to put on record what the Environmental Commission feels is the best move at this time. Wording was that “The Environmental Commission recommends that if the Council decides to demolish the old gas station, that the **foundation be left in place** so as not to invalidate the clearance we have been given by the DEP and thereby incur significant additional costs to the Borough” The members all **voted in favor of this Resolution**.

Ms. Heidi Monteleone said she talked with *Robin Filepp, wife of Ron Filepp*, re unveiling the new Trail plaque near the school and perhaps adding some planting he would have liked. **November 10 will be Trail Day**.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Administrative - No Report

Forest Management/Trail Report - Mr. Nick Murray was absent, so Chair Ticktin reported that the kiosk is moving along, materials are being delivered to the site. Because Diane Lowrie could not attend this evening, a call was made at this time to her to ask her if there were any comments on the revisions made to the Trail map. She felt the new name, *Ron Filepp Roosevelt Woodland Trail*, should be brought to the public’s attention. Chair Ticktin *said* there is no “s” on *Trail*. Ms. Lowrie would like someone to e-mail this exact information to her. It was decided that she and Chair Ticktin will communicate by e-mail. She will e-mail a copy of the revised map to Chair Ticktin and he will forward it to everybody on the Commission.

Invasive Plant Species - Mr. Steve Taylor reported that some trees were cut at the Borough Hall. He couldn’t be there for the removal of *invasive plants on the first proposed date in advance of the Roosevelt Art Walk along the Woodland Trail*, so it was difficult to get everybody together. He is going to put up 13 signs along the Trail to mark invasive plants along the way to educate our local people. There will be some work at the **Spruce Lane Butterfly Park** to get rid of more invasives along Route 571 before Oct. 20; Heidi Monteleone is willing to help him.

Stream Monitoring - Ms. Mary Tulloss reported that we have a **lady Watershed Ambassador** for the next two years. It is getting late for stream monitoring. She did go to a very interesting conference hoping to get some ideas for Roosevelt.

Ms. Mary Tulloss reported that she attended a conference “Citizen Science: Gathering Data, Increasing Engagement” at the Watershed Institute on September 14. The key speaker was **Mary Ellen Hannibal**. She felt we are all citizens of the Earth. She is concerned with the “**die off**” of **many species**. Is this from **pollution, global warming** natural cycle? Ms. Hannibal feels that we need a lot of data to analyze this situation. There has been decline of diversity over the last 40 years, **species lost. Woods are quieter, 1.5 billion fewer birds.** She referred to **Joseph Campbell’s books**, especially “Hero’s Journey”. There were several **speakers from the Stroud Watershed Water Research Center**. They spoke about micro-invertebrates, water sample measurement, invasive plants in New Jersey with emphasis on looking out for **Chinese Silver Grass** and to **eradicate it** before it gets established. A very good suggestion was called “**Leaf Pack Network**” and could be done by Roosevelt students. Leaves are put in a net bag and left in the creek for 3-4 weeks. Pull them out and look at the bottom for micro-invertebrates. This is easier than getting in the creek, using the D-net to scoop under logs and vegetation. For more information, call **David Bresslere**, 410-456-1071 (cell), 610-268-2153x312 (ofc).

Ms. Kimberly Felong attended a *Conference on Green Infrastructure* as a **Stormwater Management Strategy**. They talked about rain gardens which made her wonder where we could have one and Ms. Mary Tulloss said “at our Roosevelt School.” This can be checked and **Dr. Bill Scirappa** can be contacted.; he said that **Sustainable Jersey** is a contact for grants. We heard about **permeable pavement** which might be a good thing for Roosevelt. Ms. Felong made a motion to put us on record as follows: “The Environmental Commission recommends to the Borough Council that any repaving of roads, parking lots be done in a way to **maximize permeable coverage.**” This was seconded by Chair Ticktin and agreed upon unanimously by the members. Mr. Tim Hartley said that it might be feasible to ask our Borough Engineer for input. Ms. Tulloss made a motion to recommend that the “Borough Engineer consider **using green infrastructure principles** in designs for road reconstruction.” This was seconded by Ms. Felong and unanimously accepted by the members.

There is an ANJEC Conference on October 12 costing \$70. Ms. Kimberly Felong said some conferences on forest issues cost as much as \$200. She is available for attending conferences after November 13.


OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business, on motion by Ms. Mary Tulloss and second by Ms. Kimberly Felog, this meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.



Ann M. Kassahun, Secretary