

November 28, 2018

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission of the Borough of Roosevelt was held on Wednesday, November 28, 2018, at 7:04 P.M. at the Borough Hall. The Roll was called by Chairperson Michael Ticktin.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Felong, Hartley, Murray, Ticktin, Tulloss, Alt 1 - Margotta  
Alt 2 - Ashburner

Absent: Monteleone, Parker

**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 has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, by notices published in the Times of Trenton and in the Asbury Park Press on February 6, 2018 and posted on the bulletin boards in the Borough Hall and at the Roosevelt Post Office.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE AGENDA:**

Chairperson Ticktin mentioned that the **new Resolution** he has prepared about the Butterfly Garden will be added to the Agenda under New Business.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion was made by Mr. Nick Murray and second by Ms. Kim Felong to **approve** the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on **October 17, 2018** with the following corrections: **Page 31** under Approval of Minutes of Sept. 26, line 10, "name Filecp should be "Filepp NOT Fileep". On Page 32 under Forest Management, line 4, "take a core training course" should read "take a course". These minutes were approved unanimously with said corrections.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Chair Ticktin mentioned that the 2019 Sustainable Jersey Application will be discussed under New Business.

### **REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:**

Mr. Tim Hartley reported that the Planning Board did not meet, no report. Mr. Hartley added that he will be away for the next meeting. He will be away until next April. Chair Ticktin asked if anyone could attend during Mr. Hartley's absence. This is being worked on.

### **REPORT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE:**

Mr. Parker was not present this evening. Our Chairman Ticktin said they mentioned at the Council meeting that there is an additional four plus acres now added to the Monmouth County Park. This property was sold by Kim Dexheimer and means more public land. There is an old abandoned house; about 30 cars on the property were moved by the County. The house is to be demolished.

### **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:**

#### **Administrative - No Report**

#### **Forest Management/Trail Report**

Mr. Murray reported that he reached out to Pete Winkler re the **second kiosk** going up near the cemetery. They are very busy with their hunting season right now. A few weeks ago they held Trails Day, had about seventeen people come out to work on the Trail, like raking, removing some invasives, putting some **new puncheons** where needed. It was a good day, met some new people. They will try to have another event in the Spring to unveil some new trail signs with the new name of Ron Filepp on them. It has been a very wet year; he received an e-mail from Ana at the Borough Hall stating someone had reported that some puncheons need work in the Rochdale/Tamara section. Nick and Steve checked this out and found some puncheons were washed out, need better anchoring down. There is a lot of water in some areas; so they are thinking about **re-routing the wet section**. We may have to check with Assunpink about this problem. Mr. Murray reported that we have materials for two more puncheons. Kim will be taking a course this Friday completing our needed courses. Mr. Murray will check into other classes offered that our folks can take.

**Invasive Plant Species** - Mr. Steve Taylor reported that we gave away 200+ **milkweed plants** this year at our Fourth of July event. If we would like to do this again, now is the time to start the plants. The members agreed that we should continue with these plants to help the butterflies.

**Stream Monitoring** - Ms. Mary Tulloss reported that she is looking to check what is growing in our stream to ID it. She informed this Commission that there is a company that sells kits to put in streams. The kits are like onion bags and vertebrae will collect. She was not sure how long they stay in the stream, probably a month or so; but they are anchored to sticks or bamboo poles. More on this later. She mentioned the recent trail event done nicely by our member Nick Murray and other volunteers.

**OLD BUSINESS: None**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**2019 Sustainable Jersey Application** - Chairperson Michael Ticktin prepared a Resolution of the Roosevelt Environmental Commission. This **Resolution** is to be sent to our Borough Council to let them know that the area in front of our Borough Hall has a **Butterfly Garden** that was created to obtain Bronze Certification from Sustainable Jersey by our community efforts to supply milkweed to feed migrating **monarch butterflies** and contribute to their survival. Our Environmental Commission was asked to defer planting of replacement plants until the Borough determined what to do with the area. It has now come to the attention of the Environmental Commission that the Borough is soliciting bids for paving over the Butterfly Garden which is an important demonstration of Roosevelt's commitment to this important environmental issue. This paving of the Butterfly Garden would add additional impervious surface to the Borough Hall property, thereby exacerbating the problems of runoff and reduced recharge of groundwater due to existing pavement that should be replaced by surfacing that is not impervious. The Roosevelt Environmental Commission hereby calls upon the Borough Council to cease and desist from any plans to pave the area of the Butterfly Garden and to once again **designate the said area as a Butterfly Garden**, both to **support the survival of monarch butterflies and to educate the public to the importance of doing so.**

Motion was made by Ms. Mary Tulloss and second by Mr. Nick Murray that this Resolution be accepted and sent on to our Roosevelt Borough Council. This passed unanimously. Chair Ticktin will see that the Mayor and Council get a copy of this Resolution. Copy Attached.

There was discussion about our working with **Sustainable Jersey**; it was noted that we got the grant before we got certification. Mr. Murray thought we were up for re-certification in 2020, but should be working on it in 2019. Ms. Sharon Walz was good with this, will contact her. Ms. Mary Tulloss reported that she is working with our local school as Environmental Liaison. They are too busy to do any grant writing. She came across a drawing from 12-15 years ago re restoring Empty Box Brook, as it had some problems back then. She feels this should be scanned and saved. Mary will check this and also get an estimate. Tim Hartley was interested in safety for the locals walking trails. Chair Ticktin said Assunpink has some posts at places for the walkers. It was noted that the maps **do not** say when hunting is going on. People need to know this. Mr. Murray will ask Assunpink about this.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

No further business, on motion by Ms. Kim Felong and second by Ms. Mary Tulloss, this meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.



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Ann M. Kassahun, Secretary