

CORRECTED
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

February 27, 2019

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission of the Borough of Roosevelt was held on Wednesday, **February 27, 2019** at 7:06 P.M at the Borough Hall. The Roll was called by Chairperson Michael Ticktin.

SIGNING OF OATHS:

Messrs. Matthew Margotta (Alt. #1, term ends 12-31/2020), Sam Ashburner (Alt.#2, term ends 12-31-2019), and Luke Dermody, (Regular, term ends 12-31-20) signed Oaths as newly appointed members of this Commission.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Dermody, Monteleone, Murray, Ticktin, Margotta-Alt 1,
Ashburner-Alt 2

Absent: Felong, Hartley, Tulloss

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 filing with the Borough Clerk, by posting on bulletin boards at the Roosevelt Borough Hall and Roosevelt Post Office, and by publication in the Times of Trenton and in the Asbury Park Press on **February 7, 2019.**"

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE AGENDA: None

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Motion was made by Mr. Nick Murray and second by Ms. Heidi Monteleone to approve this evening's Agenda. This was unanimously accepted

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was made by Mr. Nick Murray and seconded by Ms. Heidi Monteleone to approve the **January 16, 2019 minutes** with correction made on page 4 under Sustainable Jersey, last line, changing "*web sight*" to "*website*". This being done, minutes were approved unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD LIAISON: Mr. Hartley was absent.

REPORT OF COUNCIL LIAISON:

Chairperson Ticktin announced that **Mr. Luke Dermody**, our new member who is also on the Council, will be our new Liaison to the Borough Council, as Mr. Cody Parker has moved away from Roosevelt. Chair Ticktin mentioned that the front area where the Butterfly Garden used to be has been remodeled and stones applied. He reported that the Council said that the Butterfly Garden can be put on the property toward the back of the Borough Hall where there is access to water.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Administrative - No Report

Forest Management - Chairperson *Ticktin* announced that he took an updated course on **Tree Management**, pretty much the course that Kim Felong took. This should be reported. Mr. Murray submitted the annual paperwork for our **Forest Management Plan**. The deadline was on Friday, February 15, but he submitted it on Tuesday, as he had to get the Mayor's signature. He received word back that we were credited for 2018 and we can proceed on with 2019 activities. Now that **Mr. Cody Parker has resigned**, we will need an **Elected Official to take a Core Training Seminar**. Mr. Murray will check the training schedules. The next step is that we should look for information on line regarding **Community Stewardship Grants** available to us. They have not updated their website yet with any new deadlines. He will check with them regarding programs this year, so we can apply for a grant for a **Tree Inventory for Roosevelt**. He will reach out to Bryan McDonald to see what they are offering this year and the deadlines that apply. Chair Ticktin inquired further about the course he took and will send the paperwork to Mr. Murray.

Regarding **Trails**, Mr. Murray received communication from Brandy Chapman, Recreational Trails Co-ordinator, and she requested our **Report**; so he has asked Ana Debevec in our Borough Hall to help us with these details. We need to generate this Report with details for submitting to Ms. Chapman. Once we do this, the State will come for an inspection. Mr. Murray said that the Grant was for \$10,000 that we could use for the Trail; Chair Ticktin added that we were paid the bulk of the money. We will get the report from Ana and submit it. Re the second Kiosk project, they want to confirm the location for this Kiosk. Mr. Murray's concern is that it is placed at least 10 feet into the field. Mr. Murray asked for comments to take to the Kiosk folks. This is a joint project of the Borough of Roosevelt, the Assunpink, the County Park, and the Eagle Scouts. Diane Lowrie has been working on a map of this project. Mr. Murray will tell Pete to "go ahead". Chair Ticktin reminded us that any money left can be used to purchase more benches. Comments were that we could make some seats and nesting boxes (for ducks and owls) along the Trail, have artists paint them; but it was felt there will not be much money left.

Invasive Plant Species - Mr. Steve Taylor reported that he wrote an article on Recycling for our local Borough Bulletin. He reported that many of our neighbors were confused about what can or cannot be recycled. Not all plastics can be recycled. They needed this information. We need a volunteer to write another article on another topic for the next Borough Bulletin. Please contact Mr. Taylor, if you can help.

Also Mr. Taylor mentioned that at the last meeting he mentioned several projects to be undertaken, but we never had them approved by the Environmental Commission. One project is to work on the wooded area on the North Side of Lake Drive, behind the odd-numbered houses. (These sections of woods run from the backyards on **Lake Drive to Route 571 North** toward the Butterfly Garden next to the horse Farm, toward Clarksburg.) Chairperson Ticktin explained that some of the problem goes back many years when a tennis court was planned behind these houses back in the 1980's and not completed. Mr. Taylor also spoke of Invasives Removal in six sections, asking if the Commission will also approve as follows: (1) Expand Spruce Park West 50 feet; (2) Borough land on North side of Clarksburg Road; (3) Remove Bradford pear in Spruce Park; (4) Remove Bittersweet and Autumn Olive - Target Tamara West; (5) Remove Wisteria – Target Tamara East; and (6) Remove Autumn Olive and Burning Bush – Target Valley Bike Path. Also, Mr. Taylor asked that we request expanding the Borough Contract to include mowing on Spruce Drive Park to include the whole area; not just the beds. Motion and Second were made to **undertake all** these projects on the North side of Lake Drive; this was approved unanimously by the members.

Stream Monitoring - Ms. Mary Tulloss was absent.

OLD BUSINESS:

Status of Butterfly Garden - Chair Ticktin said that Mr. Steve Taylor will look at the area in back of the Borough Hall, being the section to the front has been remodeled and not as suitable for plantings to help the Monarch Butterflies as they journey by. They took down some trees in the back, but it is shady. Mr. Taylor will do his best, report back to Chair Ticktin regarding our helping the butterflies.


Sustainable Jersey for the Municipality of Roosevelt - Chair Ticktin suggested that we need a Committee to help us with Sustainable Jersey business. He explained that Sustainable Jersey is in two sections: Schools and Municipalities. The Committee will be Mary Tulloss, Kimberly Felong, and Heidi Monteleone. Motion was made by Mr. Nick Murray and seconded by Mr. Matt Margotta that these three members form a Sustainable Jersey Committee to help us obtain credits for the Municipality. We will submit a letter of support for their Sustainable Jersey School's Application. This was unanimously accepted by the members with these changes.

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business, on motion and second by Messrs Nick Murray and Matt Margotta, this meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.


Ann M. Kassahun
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