

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

November 20, 2019

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission of the Borough of Roosevelt was called to order by Chairperson Michael Ticktin on Wednesday, **November 20, 2019**, at 7:02 P.M at the Borough Hall. The Roll was called by Secretary Ann Kassahun.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Ashburner, Felong, Ticktin, Tulloss, Silverman- Alt 1

Absent: Dermody, Hartley, Murray Vacancy-Alt 2

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: Mr. Steve Taylor said the Agenda was excellent.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion was made by Ms. Kim Felong and second by Ms. Mary Tulloss to approve this evening’s Agenda. This was unanimously accepted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was made by Ms. Tulloss and second by Ms. Felong to approve the minutes of **October 16, 2019** with the following corrections: On page 25, under **Welcome** change Alterenate to Alternate. On page 26, under **Council Liaison**, lines 1 and 7, change name from Sam Ashburner to Luke Dermody. On page 27, under Invasive Plant Species, change to read: “Mr. Steve Taylor reported a team removed Autumn Olive from the cemetery.” Change last sentence to read: “Chair Ticktin mentioned that the Council discussed putting up a light near the Horse Farm. Under **Stream Monitoring**, change first sentence to read: “Ms. Mary Tulloss reported that she would like to attend a workshop at the Water Shed Institute.” Change sentences 3 and 4 to read: “She is

hoping to meet with the Hightstown Stream Monitors and staff at the Water Shed Institute.” Next sentence should read “She made a motion to be reimbursed \$35 by the Borough for attending the Water Shed Conference.” On page 27, under **Sustainable Jersey**, second paragraph should read: “Ms. Mary Tulloss reported there is a \$2,000 grant *application* due October 31 for Sustainable Jersey for schools to build 4 beds near the school and/or a fence for larger planting areas. We applied for a grant.” Take out the last two sentences.

This was seconded and unanimously accepted. Ana, the Borough Clerk, will be notified of the money to be released”.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD LIAISON: No Report

REPORT OF COUNCIL LIAISON:

Our Council Liaison was not present this evening, so Chairman Ticktin reported that he was at the Council Meeting. Our Luke Dermody made a presentation regarding the Tree Ordinance and Chair Ticktin also spoke regarding the Ordinance. The Council tabled the proposed Tree Ordinance.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Administrative - No Report

Forest Management - Mr. Nick Murray was absent, no official Report. Mr. Ashburner said that he took an on-line class which will satisfy some of the continuing education credits we need. The topic was the “Emerald Ash Borer”. Chair Ticktin has taken some courses also, so we are keeping up with their requirement of two people taking courses.

Invasive Plant Species - Mr. Steve Taylor reported that on October 19 they planted twenty (20) Red Bud trees along Rochdale. They could not do all they wanted to do, as the weather was bad; they will wait for Spring.

Stream Monitoring - Ms, Mary Tulloss reported on the 3rd **Annual Watershed Conference** at the Watershed Institute on Nov. 1. **First session** discussed working with diverse groups on environmental problems, such as: **clean air and water**, using phrases like “triple bottom line” and “People, Profit & Planet. **Second session** focused on **changing streets from car friendly to pedestrian, bike and car friendly**. **Third session** was development of a **Civic Science Pathogen Weekly Monitoring Program on the Lower Raritan River**. **Fourth session** was **Landscaping for a Healthy Environment** referring to jerseyyard.org for further information. Ms. Tulloss made contact with Nik Hansen, told him our problems; he suggested some training from the Watershed,. We need a kit for testing; cost is about \$300. He should be contacted in the **Spring**. He will come to Roosevelt, if we want to proceed.

Sustainable Jersey - Ms. Kim Felong reported that we currently have 85 out of 150 points and will receive 10 more points from Mr. David Herrstrom, President of the Roosevelt Arts Project. We are hoping to get another 10 points in the Green Tree Challenger category and we will also receive another 10 points for actions we have already done from the National Resource.

Invasive Species - Mr. Steve Taylor reported that Saturday and Sunday a team worked removing **Autumn Olive** in the cemetery and by Empty Box Brook. This weekend they will be working near Rochdale. Chair Ticktin mentioned discussion by the Borough Counsel about Jersey Central Power & Light putting some lighting near the corner of the small park (Route 571 across from the Horse Farm's large field).

Stream Monitoring, Etc. - Ms. Mary Tulloss reported that she would like *to attend a Conference at the Watershed Institute. The time for monitoring has passed for this year. She is hoping to meet with the Hightstown Stream Monitors and staff at the Watershed Institute.* She made a motion to reimburse herself the \$35 that she used for the Watershed Project. Motion was made and seconded, unanimously accepted. Ana will be notified of monies to be released.

Sustainable Jersey - Ms. Kim Felong reported that she needs a third person working with her, but people are very busy. She asked if anyone could join her. Sam Ashburner said he can upload information. He can look up how many credits we have, etc. Chair Ticktin will keep in touch with them. Our mandatory actions have been met. We can persue points under "Natural Resources" and "Green Challenges". If folks are interested in a specific workable topic, Kim encourages them to follow through, keep her in the loop.

Ms. Mary Tulloss reported there is a \$2,000 *grant application* due October 31, for Sustainable Jersey Schools; we applied for a grant to build 4 raised beds near the school and/or a fence for larger planting areas. We would work with the School Principal. Anyone with information, please share it. We may be able to get our information together quickly and apply for this.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business, on motion by Ms Felong and second by Ms. Silverman, this meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Ann M. Kassahun, Secretary