

BYRAM TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
September 28, 2017 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:35pm. Members present included: James Myers, Eric Duch, Jim Reinhold, Lisa Shimamoto and Secretary, Donna Fett.

A motion was made by James, seconded by Lisa to approve the minutes from the August 24, 2017 meeting.

New Business:

- Review EC Mission Statement - EC reviewed the current Mission Statement and suggested two minor corrections: 1) add maintain trails and 2) remove member of NJ Highlands Coalition. EC will finalize this next month.
- Review proposed 2018 Meeting Dates - The list of proposed meeting dates was reviewed and accepted. EC meetings will continue to be held on the 4th Thursday of each month, except during November and December where the meeting will be moved to Monday during those holiday weeks.
- Recycling Postcard - EC reviewed last year's costs (approximately \$1500) and suggested to include statements about Metal disposal at the Township Recycling Center. They would also like to see statements added about the special free recycling days offered by SCMUA. EC Secretary was asked to draft a new postcard.
- A meeting was held with Twp. Management and Forester, Ron Farr, regarding trail responsibilities. Ron is responsible to do the trail blazing and to create any new trails. EC may continue to do trail clean-up days.

Ongoing Business:

Byram Day Results - A big success! Thank you to those who volunteered their time at the very popular EC booth - Katie B., Michelle, Nora, Cathy and Donna F. Thank you letters which were signed by the Mayor were sent to the businesses who donated items for the two raffle baskets. The Rubenstein Family won the bee basket and the McCracken Family won the butterfly basket. A motion was made by Jim, seconded by Lisa to purchase replacement gift cards for \$50.

Planning Board Applications:

- Semeraro - 10 Roseville Rd. - applicant seeking variance for sheds. EC had the following comments after review:
 - Please provide a plan for mitigation of stormwater run-off in the area of the steep slope disturbance in the rear portion of the lot.
 - Please consider using low-maintenance landscaping that encourages retention, planting of native vegetation and minimize the use of lawns, fertilizers and pesticides.

- Bovair - 4 Adair Street - applicant is seeking variances for an addition. EC had the following comments after review:
 - Please provide a plan to mitigate the additional expected run-off due to the increase of the size of the building. We recommend a drainage system.

Trails:

- Trail Maps "App" Status - Deferred until next meeting as Katie B. was not present
- Schedule Fall Clean-up Day - EC would like to do this on Sunday, Nov. 5th around 1pm. Discussed where this should occur and EC would like Secretary to inquire with Ron Farr where he would suggest doing this. EC also discussed doing clean-up at the trailheads. EC would like to post this on Byram Facebook Page, along with a polling feature to get an estimate on the number of people who would participate.
- EC discussed trail usage and Eric volunteered to encourage Salt Shakers to use Tamarack Trail.
- EC asked if DPW has any light tools that could be used by EC during the clean-up days - things like a weed whacker. EC Secretary will follow-up with DPW.

Expenditures and Budget:

- \$41 was spent on items to balance out the raffle baskets (candles and candies) and clay for the milkweed seed truffles craft for Byram Day
- Budget of \$2,600 with a balance remaining of \$1,721
- Consider purchase of GPS Unit for EC use or reference books for EC library

Reports From Committees:

Recreation Committee thanked EC for an exceptional booth at Byram Day.

Other:

- Reviewed Stormwater Ordinances (211-8, 211-9, 211-10, 211-13) for verbiage to include in future planning board applications.
- EC was invited to participate in a Township meeting with the Chairs of Township committees. This meeting will be held on October 30th at 7pm. James is unable to attend and Michelle has been asked to attend in his place. RSVP is needed.
- Trex Challenge with scouts is around 220 lbs. 500 lbs. are needed by January in order to earn the bench.
- A resident attended a recent planning board meeting and questioned the Township's use of fertilizers and herbicides and who has responsibility to do this. He is a fisherman near Brookwood section of town. EC Secretary researched, provided ordinance information and confirmed that DPW sprays certain areas of town and certain sections only. EC Secretary was asked to contact DPW and determine what products are used.
- EC requested to be advised of trail updates made by Ron Farr.
- EC requested to attend an Economic Development Committee meeting and EC Secretary was asked to research when they meet.

A motion was made by Eric, seconded by Lisa to adjourn the meeting at 9:30pm.

Next meeting is October 26, 2017.