

# BYRAM TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

## November 23, 2015 Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

Present were John Boyer, Jim Reinhold, James Myers, Lisa Shimamoto, Michelle Rehse, and Donna Koenig.

October Minutes were approved: motion by John, second by Jim, unanimous.

### Correspondence and updates:

- Ongoing - Steep slope ordinance: EC memo to Zoning Officer recommending that prohibitions on disturbing sensitive features be extended to all circumstances, not only when permits or approvals are sought from the Township. No response; EC decided to wait until Zoning Officer has time to consider.
- Soil ordinance: Subcommittee of John, Dave to report on the draft ordinance to be submitted to Planning Board and Council
- Ongoing: Community Forestry Management Plan: Distribute copies of the 5 year (2015 – 2019) management plan, put together by Farr Forestry Services, LLC, at the next meeting so we keep up to date with programs and requirements that will maintain Byram's status with the DEP's NJ State Forestry Services.

### Business:

- Rutgers offering program to become a certified Environmental Steward. Class time Tuesdays, Jan. – May, 9:30- 12:30. If anyone's interested, we can discuss in December's meeting.
- Tilcon annual quarry licensing application: James reviewing Tilcon license; toured quarry with Cory Stoner in November
- Resolution for 2016 EC meeting dates: Resolution signed and passed onto Doris 11/24/15.
- Update *Help Keep our Lanes and Streams Clean!* postcard: Is there a need for a new, updated postcard? And if so, should we add comments from Rich Shernce about being mindful of using licensed insured landscapers, pesticide companies, and contractors to prevent illegal dumping and compensation claims. Cathy reviewing the postcard.
- Membership: Membership terms for John Boyer and Katie Parish are up. Both need to email Doris ([dflynn@byramtwp.org](mailto:dflynn@byramtwp.org)) before the end of the year to let her know if renewing. Also, looking to fill open seats (one regular and two alternate). Donna to make flyer to be sent home with Lakes and Intermediate school kids; Doris will place an ad in the Township Journal.

### Planning Board:

- Applications: None this month.

### Trails:

- Ongoing: Status of campaign for Cutoff trail.
- Blazes with QR code need to be added to trailhead sign posts – Jim/Donna considering taking on this task, will print maps indicating trailhead posts for next meeting

- 2 Trail head posts still need to be installed – Cat Swamp connector meets Highlands Trail and Glenside Woods off of Ranger Trail
- Scheduled for spring – Johnson Lake and Brookwood trails to be maintained

**Forestry:**

- No Net Loss tree planting grant application: Identified township properties throughout Byram and highlighted areas on tax maps to explore possible places for tree planting. Jim and Donna to check out properties for possible plantings
- Tree City USA signs: Two to be installed at town hall; discuss with Township Manager.
- Planting designs for 4 detention basins: Hold off till spring – maybe an Arbor Day or scout project

**Expenditures and budget:**

- Membership renewal for NY-NJ Trail Conference: motion by Michelle, 2nd by Lisa; unanimous; \$50
- Membership renewal for ANJEC; motion by Michelle, second by Lisa; unanimous; \$395
- Re-certify for Tree City USA - part of the annual work plan for Byram’s Comm. Forestry Mngt. \$15

**Reports from committees:**

- Musconetcong River: nothing to report
- Open Space Committee: nothing to report
- Council: Dave Gary

**Adjourn 8:40**