

Environmental Commission meeting Minutes
April 25, 2024 @ 7:30pm

Dana Flynn	Chairperson	X
Eric Duch	Vice Chairperson	
Lisa Shimamoto	Member	X
Peter Dlugos	Member	X
James Myers	Member	X
Christine Aboulhosn	Member	X
	Member	
	Alternate 1	
	Alternate 2	
Andrew McElroy	Planning Board Liaison	
Harvey Roseff	Council Liaison	
Fran Frederick	Secretary	X
Debbie Armeno	Recreation Director	X

Called Meeting to Order at 7:36 pm.

Public Participation N/A

Open Public Meeting Statement

Review of Meeting Minutes – March 28, 2024

Motion was made by Lisa Shimamoto to accept. Peter Dlugos seconded.

Planning Board Applications

- Block 227 Lot 370, 3 Bank Street, Brian Kearns (residential reconstruction with addition)
 - No EC comments.
- Block 35 Lot 36, 43 Route 206, Raimo (minor changes to approved plan, doors/roof)
 - No EC comments.

Committee Reports

- MRMC – Last meeting, February 20; next meeting May 7
 - No updates.
- Recreation – Last meeting, April 9; next meeting May 14
 - Debbie provided an overview of Recreation status and upcoming events for the EC.
 - Noted that Rec is in transition with membership and has openings
 - Byram Day is scheduled for August 24 from 4-9 PM, EC can have a table
 - Hosting a Movie in the Park, trips to Frog Falls Aquatic Park, trip to Monster Jam, numerous activities available through Community Pass Program
 - Debbie will be sending out a weekly Rec newsletter and offered to advertise EC events
 - Fall events would need to be formally advertised/printed by June/July
 - Mentioned eco scavenger hunt that Danielle and Dana have been coordinating and clarification is needed to determine the “owner” of that event and timing

- EC members were receptive and appreciative of Debbie's presentation and all of her efforts to re-build a Recreation Program for Byram
- Open Space – Last meeting, April 8; next meeting June 10
 - Peter provided updates noting President and Vice President of Open Space
 - ~\$110,000/year will come from Open Space tax and will help fund projects at CO Johnson Park
 - Forestry Plan needs evaluation, discussing a timber sale and doing a Woodland Management Plan versus a Stewardship Plan
 - Some funding may be available through Open Space for ANJEC trail work
 - Deer Management (NJDEP) – works on a cycle that starts in May and provides \$10-15K. May be delegated to the EC. Open Space may hire a consultant.
- Council – Last meeting, April 17; next meeting May 7
 - Council rep absent but NJ Stormwater Statute and Tree Ordinance was mentioned, and Christine/Dana agreed to research for clarity/applicability. Christine to reach out to ANJEC.

New Business

- MWA Upper Watershed Special Meeting – May 9
 - 7:30-8:30 PM
- Arbor Day
 - Event was well received.
 - Dana added that during future events, EC should note residents who would like more trees than the recommended limit and be contacted if there are leftovers
- 2024 ANJEC Open Space Stewardship Grant – submitted.
- 2024 Events
 - Avian Wildlife Center Presentation
 - Firehouse most appropriate venue. Is there a fee to use? Schedule coordination needed.
 - National Trails Day – Cindy is looking for previous resolutions. June 1.
 - Hikes/educational walks
 - Waterloo History Day – June 22 – EC will need to confirm if attending by early May
 - 50th Anniversary of the EC – October. May be able to incorporate into Byram Day table/activities.

Old Business

- EC water bottles – May meeting – finalize cost and # to purchase
- Mission Statement
 - Continue to work on Lisa's draft; possibly setup a Google document for member input.
- Mansfield Trail Superfund Site – No updates.

Training-

Dana needs to investigate requirements for NJUCF Re-certification.
3.5 CEUs completed, 4.5 remaining

Membership

- Alternate I and II positions are currently vacant.

Budget – \$2175

Water bottles and Avian Wildlife Center presentation fee

Next Meeting to be held May 23, 2024 in-person

Motion to Adjourn was made by James. Lisa seconded.