



Borough of Fanwood Environmental Commission

Minutes
February 15, 2018

Opening

NJ Open Public Meetings Act was read and the meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM

Members Present

Eric Gaulin, Phyllis Sandroek, Gary Szelc, Sandy Redder, Margaret Chowdhury, Carol Walczuk, Teresa Keeler, Kathy Mitchell (Borough Council Liaison), Kevin Boris (Planning Board Liaison)

Members Absent

Dave Schwartzberg

Member Update

- none

Approval of Previous Minutes

- Approved with no comments.

Nature Center Report

1. Bird blind repair
2. Eagle Scout Projects
 - a. Justin Chaillet Troop 33 Eagle Scout project – approved, not started
 - b. Michael Chiappi Troop 33 Eagle Scout project – no news
3. Replacement of the Message Center
 - a. Funding
4. Other Nature Center Discussion
 - a. Two trees down, Phyllis reached out to DPW on 2/13/18 about it
5. Eric reported that Troop 33 will be putting up the new shed in the coming weeks.

Old Business

1. Finalize the Fanwood Environmental Resources Inventory – Gary. No report given.
2. Grant Opportunities
 - a. Green Acres
 - i. Revised work scope written by Eric, given to Pat Hoynes in November; discussed with Pat in January. Eric will follow up next week.
 - b. Fiskars – 2018. Teresa reported that we are not eligible for this grant.

- c. American Butterfly Association – 2018
3. Union County Means Green. Form was submitted by Teresa to get seeds and plants.
4. American Water – For watershed areas. We will be working on submitting an application for this grant.
5. Develop a mission statement and goals for the Nature Center – Eric, no progress.
6. Develop of bylaws for the Environmental Commission – Kevin provided two examples that will give us a baseline to start from. All need to read the Closter example and submit suggestions to Kevin.
7. Explore with PSE&G methods to mitigate storm runoff from Vinton Circle into the PSE&G and NC – Dave, no discussion
8. 2018 Garden Workshop – 3/24/2018 – 3 PM to 5 PM. We will be using the Carriage House for this activity.
9. Margaret reported that we have a Master Gardener (Maria Snair) to volunteer at the Borough Hall gardens. Teresa was approached to submit a poster (for March 20) or other material to promote volunteer work by Master Gardener's in Fanwood's gardens.
10. Budget
 - a. Discussion, requested \$10,835. The display case and cameras were pulled out of our budget as these were deemed as capital expenditures.

New Business

1. Girl Scouts – would like to have a meeting to learn about how the Borough manages environmental issues. Discussion was had to try and work girl scout badges into work for the Env. Comm or Nature Center. We will work with a scout leader to get ideas and suggestions.
2. Keenan contacted Eric for a recommendation for internship.

Review of Plans

1. 145 North Ave. - Detached garage. With the impervious coverage issues, the EC has concerns. Comments on the plan will be submitted.
2. 200 Midway – Subdivision proposal. No comments at this time.

Action Items

1. **Gary** to Finalize the Fanwood Environmental Resources Inventory.
2. Bylaws – Review the Closter bylaws and provide comments to Kevin – **all**.
3. **Teresa** to spearhead the grant opportunities to get required information and submit. She may need from help from others in getting information. In addition, she will follow up with Union County on the plants we may be able to get from them due to us being a grant recipient last year.

4. **Dave** is going to explore with PSE&G methods to mitigate storm runoff from Vinton Circle into the PSE&G and NC. He is going to look at the area and get a contact for PSE&G and work on a solution.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25.

Attachments

none