



Borough of Fanwood Environmental Commission

Minutes
March 15, 2018

Opening

NJ Open Public Meetings Act was read and the meeting was called to order at 7:36 PM

Members Present

Eric Gaulin, Phyllis Sandrock, Gary Szelc, Sandy Redder, Margaret Chowdhury, Carol Walczuk, Teresa Keeler, Kevin Boris (Planning Board Liaison)

Members Absent

Dave Schwartzberg, Kathy Mitchell (Borough Council Liaison)

Approval of Previous Minutes

- Approved.

Nature Center Report

1. Bird blind repair – DPW has repaired it.
2. Eagle Scout Projects
 - a. Justin Chaillet Troop 33 Eagle Scout project – Water shed education approved.
 - b. Michael Chiappi Troop 33 Eagle Scout project – no news
 - c. Third Eagle Scout is looking for a project.
3. Replacement of the Message Center
 - a. This was placed into the Capital budget along with camera's – no update.
4. Other Nature Center Discussion
 - a. Two trees down, Phyllis reached out to DPW on 2/13/18 about it; resolved
 - b. Post storm damage – Lots of trees are down, inventory being taken.
 - c. Bench vandalism – it was torn out of the ground.
 - d. Carol suggested we reach out to Trail Caretakers to see if they can help with the trails in the NC – she will follow up.

Old Business

1. Finalize the Fanwood Environmental Resources Inventory.
 - a. Maps still needed. Eric to send them to Monique.
2. Grant Opportunities
 - a. Green Acres

- i. Revised work scope finalized, given to bidders. One bidder – Najarian Associates, \$13k. Status – No update, need to follow up with Kathy.
 - b. Fiskars – not eligible as we are not a 501C.
 - c. Sustainable NJ – Roots to Rivers. Teresa has submitted an application (\$1200 possible).
 - d. American Water Grant – Recycle what we submitted last year.
 - e. Union County Means Green – Probably not going to be able to submit by the deadline.
 - f. American Butterfly Assoc – Teresa to investigate if we can get additional native plants for the town planters.
- 3. Develop a mission statement and goals for the Nature Center – Eric, no progress.
- 4. Develop of bylaws for the Environmental Commission – discuss ideas based on examples distributed by Kevin. All to give Kevin our comments and he will coordinate our comments.
- 5. Explore with PSE&G methods to mitigate storm runoff from Vinton Circle into the PSE&G and NC – Dave, no discussion
- 6. 2018 Garden Workshop – 3/24/2018 – 3 PM to 4 PM. Will include a PowerPoint presentation on pollinator friendly gardens, a walk through the gardens and a plant giveaway.
- 7. Budget
 - a. No update.
 - b. Capital expenditure for cameras / message board?
- 8. Girl Scouts – would like to have a meeting to learn about how the Borough manages environmental issues – Eric has set this up for 4/13/18.
- 9. Carol to get the Nature Center listed as an area where Master Gardeners can earn service hours.

New Business

- 1. Annual Report – Eric has to write
- 2. Clean Community Day is April 21st at 8:30AM...Earth Day!
- 3. Milk Weed Plants – Margaret was quick to respond and was able to secure 25 milkweed plants! Proposal was made to place in planters around town – it was stated that Mary Kelly (and the girl scouts) maintains these.
- 4. Mater Garden Beautification List – working on getting our gardens listed.

Review of Plans

- 1. None

Action Items

- **Carol** to reach out to Trail Caretakers to see if they can help with the trails in the NC.
- **Teresa** to investigate if we can get additional native plants for the town planters from the American Butterfly Assoc.
- Bylaws – Review the Closter bylaws and provide comments to Kevin – **all**.
- **Carol** is working to get the Nature Center listed as an area where Master Gardeners can earn service hours.

From Previous Meetings:

- **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 8:15.

Attachments

None.