



## **Borough of Fanwood Environmental Commission**

### **Minutes**

July 19, 2018

#### **Opening**

Meeting was called to order with the reading of NJ Open Public Meetings Act at 7:30 PM.

#### **Members Present**

Eric Gaulin, Phyllis Sandrock, Teresa Keeler, Dave Schwartzberg, Carol Walczuk, Kathy Mitchell (Borough Council Liaison), Gary Szelc, Kevin Boris (Planning Board Liaison)

#### **Members Absent**

Margaret Chowdhury, Sandy Redder

#### **Member Update**

- None

#### **Approval of Previous Minutes**

- Minutes approved without comment.

#### **Nature Center Discussion**

1. Capitol Improvements / Expenditures
  - a. no news; message centers removed from Capitol Budget request, funding instead requested from Open Space fund (see attached resolution)
2. Ongoing Nature Center Maintenance
  - a. Shed has been installed, Phyllis will purchase a lock and share the combination to the group.
  - b. Phyllis noted that the trees planted in spring, appear to be doing well.
  - c. Broken tree still present in the western part of the Nature Center. The department of public works cannot address this, a tree contractor will be needed.
  - d. Discussed power washing and repainting of board walks in the Nature Center. Phyllis suggested power washing the surface and repainting the surface with some non-slip aggregate. Teresa suggested having this work completed by HS National Honor Society Volunteers.
3. Ongoing Maintenance
  - a. (Phyllis)
4. Volunteer Projects
  - a. Trail Signage and Education

- i. Michael Chiappi, corresponded on 4/9/18; 7/6/18 – no update
- b. Renovation of the Main Nature Center Entrance
  - i. Alex Rodriguez, corresponded on 4/19/18; 7/6/18 – no update
  - ii. Open Space Funding obtained
- c. Renovation of three other Nature Center Entrances
  - i. Steven Kozlowski 4/19/2018; 7/10/18 – application in
  - ii. Open Space Funding obtained
- d. ANJEC Grant / Boardwalk Extension
  - i. Antoinette Chango, present at the meeting. She is a high school student at Scotch Plains Fanwood HS, who is in a club called Interact, which works with Rotary International. Club advisor is Liz Borden. Antoinette is interested in the boardwalk extension project
  - ii. Grant was for 65 feet of boardwalk – can we decide on a location?

### **Old Business**

1. Finalize the Fanwood Environmental Resources Inventory – Gary to review one last time after his vacation.
2. Grants
  - a. Green Acres
    - i. T&M has written a draft report; Eric to review
  - b. Sustainable NJ – Roots to Rivers
    - i. Final report was submitted by Teresa.
  - c. American Water Grant
    - i. Dave Schwartzberg – project lead. Dave will begin scoping out the plants needed to replant the areas in the Nature Center.
3. Develop of bylaws for the Environmental Commission – Kevin indicates the material were collated and sent to the Fanwood Borough Attorney for preparation.
4. Explore with PSE&G methods to mitigate storm runoff from Vinton Circle into the PSE&G and NC – Dave walked this area with the Borough Engineer. Some suggestions are forthcoming.
5. 2018 Garden Workshop – Reschedule date? Any new plantings? Recall there is a store credit at Ambergs. No discussion
6. Budget. No discussion
7. Annual Report – Eric, no news
8. Goddard School – 1 hour presentation July 24 at 10 AM – Teresa
9. Plainfield MUA Environmental Fair – September 8<sup>th</sup>
10. Creation of a new poster / display for what we do. Eric requested new pictures and the like highlighting our projects
11. Brunner School Boy Scouts – leader John Andrew Allen reached out to me. Students would like to volunteer in summer / fall (May 8, 2018 email)

12. Insurance for volunteers (Phyllis) – no news.
13. Volunteer to help with gardens – Margaret has reached out

**New Business**

1. No discussion.

**Review of Plans**

1. No plans.

**Action Items**

**Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

**Attachments**

**BOROUGH OF FANWOOD  
RESOLUTION 18-06-111**

**RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING OPEN SPACE TAX  
FUNDS TO THE CONSERVATION CENTER**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:12-15.7(a)(1), the Borough of Fanwood (the “Borough”) placed a non-binding referendum on the November 8, 2016 general election ballot regarding the creation of Municipal Open Space, Recreation, Floodplain Protection, And Farmland And Historic Preservation Trust Fund (the “Trust Fund”) with a concurrent tax levy to assist in the creation of such trust fund; and

**WHEREAS**, the majority of voters of the Borough voted in favor of the referendum, indicating their interest in the creation of the trust fund and a concurrent tax levy to provide for the funding of such trust fund; and

**WHEREAS**, by Ordinance 18-07-R, adopted on June 18, 2018, the Borough created the Borough of Fanwood Municipal Open Space, Recreation, Floodplain Protection, And Farmland And Historic Preservation Trust Fund and the dedicated tax levy in an amount not to exceed One Cent (\$0.01) per One Hundred Dollars (\$100) of the assessed value of each and every taxable property located within the Borough (the “Open Space Tax”); and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary for funds to be appropriated to the Conservation Center in the amount of \$2500 which can be appropriated from the funds reserved pursuant to the Open Space Tax for the maintenance of lands acquired within the Borough for recreation and conservation purposes.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Fanwood, County of Union, State of New Jersey as follows:

Section 1. the amount of 2500.00 shall be appropriated from the Borough of Fanwood Municipal Open Space, Recreation, Floodplain Protection, And Farmland And Historic Preservation Trust Fund which was allocated to the maintenance of lands acquired within the Borough for recreation and conservation purposes for use in connection with the Conservation Center of Fanwood;

Section 2. The Borough Chief Finance Officer, Clerk and other official and/or professional, as applicable, hereby is authorized to take all necessary and proper action to implement this Resolution and maintain, operate and administer the appropriated funds.

This is to certify that the above is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council on June 18, 2018.

Eleanor McGovern, Borough Clerk