

Holland Township Environmental Commission Minutes

January 3, 2018 7 PM Meeting

Chairman Keady called the meeting to order. He read the notice satisfying the Open Public Meeting Act. All stood for the pledge of allegiance. All were reminded to turn off their cell phones or put them in silent mode.

Members Present: Jerry Bowers, Henry Gore, Ted Harwick, Mike Keady, Susan Meacham, Dwight Pederson, Rick Schrack and Secretary Maria Elena Jennette Kozak.

Absent: Township Committee Liaison: Robert Thurgarland

Absent: David Harrison

Let the record show we have a quorum.

Oath of Office: Chairman Keady administered the oath to Jerry Bowers and Ted Harwick. Congratulations to both on their reappointment.

Minutes: A motion was made by Jerry Bowers and seconded by Ted Harwick to approve the November 1, 2017 minutes as presented. All present were in favor of the motion with the exception of Susan Meacham who abstained. Motion carried.

Minutes: A motion was made by Jerry Bowers and seconded by Ted Harwick to approve the December 6, 2017 minutes as presented. All present were in favor of the motion with the exception of Susan Meacham who abstained. Motion carried.

New NJDEP requirements for Holland's Stormwater permit. Chairman Keady explained the process, including the Clinton Township lawsuit of a detention basin not being maintained and the outcome of the court while Secretary Kozak explained that she has been in touch with DPW Supervisor Turdo who will be working with Township Engineer Roseberry. An inventory and inspection of all detention basins will be required. Secretary Kozak explained that she developed a preliminary list with Supervisor Turdo and expects that the files in the Planning Board/Board of Adjustment will be needed for review by Engineer Roseberry. Both Mr. Turdo and Mr. Roseberry will advise on what will be needed and how help can be offered. The educational points are also changing and Secretary Kozak will work with the new requirements to see what is currently satisfied by Holland Township for 2018 and what will need to be worked on. Additional information will follow.

PennEast Pipeline update: Susan Meacham and Mike Keady – Not much has happened. FERC has not issued a certificate of necessity. December 21, 2017 was the meeting deadline. A new project the Adelpia Line might be have some connection to the PennEast project. That line was constructed in the 70's and transported oil. In 1996 there was a dual conversion. They are looking to convert more to carrying natural gas. The Adelpia Line runs down PA and into the Trenton area. It is not part of the PennEast project. The Adelpia line is a smaller size pipe. If the PennEast project is shut down then the Adelpia line could likely be enlarged.

No one is really aware of why the Adelpia Line is going to FERC. They have multiple instances of violations.

An Article was mentioned regarding Sunoco and how the company has had problems and has had violations and that the DEP had to step on to Stop Sunoco from moving forward until the issues are resolved. The article appears as follows (slightly edited in inserting into the minutes):

Pennsylvania shuts down construction on Sunoco gas pipeline

MICHAEL RUBINKAM

[Associated Press](#)•January 03, 2018

Pennsylvania environmental officials ordered Sunoco on Wednesday to halt construction of a natural gas pipeline across the southern part of the state, citing a series of spills and leaks of drilling fluid and other "egregious and willful violations" of state law that have plagued the \$2.5 billion project.

The Department of Environmental Protection said it ordered work on the Mariner East 2 pipeline to stop until Sunoco complies with the terms of its permit. DEP has issued dozens of environmental violations to Sunoco since May, contending the company has demonstrated a "lack of ability or intention" to comply with the state's clean streams law and other environmental regulations.

"Until Sunoco can demonstrate that the permit conditions can and will be followed, DEP has no alternative but to suspend the permits," DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell said in a statement. "We are living up to our promise to hold this project

The 350-mile-long pipeline will carry propane, butane and ethane from the Marcellus Shale natural gas formation in western Pennsylvania to an export terminal near Philadelphia. Sunoco has said construction on the 20-inch pipeline is scheduled to be complete in the second quarter of 2018, with a companion 16-inch pipeline to be placed into service later this year.

Pipeline supporters say it's desperately needed to help gas producers get their product to market. Drillers in the Marcellus Shale, the nation's largest natural-gas reservoir, have been battered by several years of rock-bottom prices caused by oversupply and inadequate pipeline capacity.

Environmental advocacy groups tried to stop Mariner East 2 from getting off the ground, asserting that construction would deforest more than 1,500 acres, cross hundreds of streams and wetlands and damage farmland and aquifers that provide drinking water.

State officials, environmental groups and Sunoco reached a settlement in August in which the company agreed to re-evaluate 47 high-risk sites associated with the pipeline, and submit revised plans for those sites.

"Today's announcement is a step in the right direction, but the only responsible course of action for Governor Wolf is to stop the Mariner East 2 altogether," Sam Rubin of Food & Water Watch said Wednesday. "This project, which was greenlighted with flawed permits, was never going to be safe for the people of Pennsylvania."

In its order, DEP told Sunoco to "fully explain the failures that led to the violations" and come up with a plan to fix them. The company also has to restore or replace the water supply of two homeowners in a township west of Harrisburg who complained last month about "cloudy water" resulting from pipeline construction.

This story has been corrected to show the pipeline costs \$2.5 billion, not \$2.5 million.

Rubinkam reported from New Ringgold, Pennsylvania.

Information has been released about studies done near fracking sites. The present Federal administration is pushing for clean coal and nuclear. The oil industry is fighting and they want subsidies as well.

Sub-Committees:

Additional discussion to take place in the future regarding sub-committee titles and positions.

Stormwater Education – Mike Keady, Rick Schrack and Maria Elena Jennette Kozak as Secretary –nothing new to report. Secretary Kozak will prepare a status report.

Trails – Ted Harwick, Jerry Bowers and Richard Schrack. – Progressing. Pictures are being taken and all are aware that the project needs to be completed by April.

Community Education and Outreach – Jerry Bowers, Dwight Pederson, and Susan Meacham – If you see additional corrections that are needed please send them to Secretary Kozak. The link is as follows: <http://www.hollandtownshipnj.gov/14-ec/46-environmental-commission.html>. All were still encouraged to think about how to publicize the Trails. Mapping will need to be created etc.

Highlands Conformance – Jerry Bowers and Mike Keady. Nothing new to report.

Shade Tree and Community Forestry Plan Sub-Committee – Henry Gore, Ted Harwick, Dwight Pederson and Maria Elena Jennette Kozak as secretary.

Tree Markers –The markers are ordered. The webpages for the trees with videos for each tree page need to be worked on. Mr. Pederson is working on mapping. The signs will be put up in the spring at a dedication. The goal will be to do an Arbor Day celebration at the end of April with a township proclamation being made. More details to follow. The windmill logo was discussed.

Community Forestry Plan discussion. Deadline for filing the 2017 annual report is mid-February. Henry Gore is working on this and will identify where he needs additional help. There is a webinar on January 18, 2018 that is designed to help participants understand the process of submitting the new annual report form. Secretary Kozak will see if the state will allow us to come to the municipal building to attend the workshop webinar as a group. Continuing Education Units (CEU's) are being offered for attendance of the webinar which is what something Holland Township will need for 2018 and the 2018 annual report form. Secretary Kozak will reach out to the Maser Arborist to see if he has a recommendation for what method is best for Holland in doing a tree inventory. Ron Farr has also reached out to Holland Township to see if we needed his services.

Status on changing ordinance applying to parks and other township owned lands – Henry Gore expressed his opinion that this is still a very important consideration especially in moving forward with our Community Forestry Plan. The Highlands Council has expressed that they are working on a Forestry Plan and that they potentially will be able to work with municipalities thru additional grants. The hope is that they might have something for discussion at some point

in 2018. Henry Gore reminded everyone that we could begin with a wildlife feeding ordinance. He also talked about people claiming land even on an easement property. He really wants everyone to look at the list he previously supplied and to start looking at where the EC should begin on ordinance modification or addition. Discussion then went into signage at the trails about prohibited activities and Henry Gore will work on drafting a sign for consideration. Jerry Bowers suggests that we consider limiting the rules to start with approximately 6 as a minimum and 10 as a maximum. Keep it simple to start! A clause should be added as a disclaimer that all State and Local laws will be enforced!

Inventory on Fauna and Flora subcommittee - David Harrison, Rick Schrack, Dwight Pederson
- Nothing new to report.

Public Comment: No comments were expressed.

At 9:10 pm made a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted

Maria Elena Jennette Kozak

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Environmental Commission Secretary