

# Holland Township Environmental Commission Minutes

June 4, 2019 7 PM Meeting

Chairman Keady called the meeting to order. I call to order the June 4, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Holland Township Environmental Commission. Adequate notice of this meeting was given pursuant to the Open Public Meeting Act Law by the Environmental Commission Secretary by:

1. Posting such notice on the bulletin board at the Municipal Building.
2. Publishing the notice in the December 13, 2018 edition of the Hunterdon County Democrat
3. And faxing to the Express-Times for informational purposes only.

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, Ted Harwick (arrived at 7:15 pm), David Harrison, Mike Keady, Ray Note, and Secretary Maria Elena Jennette Kozak.

Absent: Henry Gore, Susan Meacham, Dwight Pederson, and Township Committee Liaison: Robert Thurgarland

Let the record show we have a quorum.

Minutes: A motion was made by Jerry Bowers and seconded by David Harrison to dispense with the reading of the April 3, 2019 and May 8, 2019 minutes and approve them as such. All present were in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

PennEast Pipeline update: Susan Meacham (absent) and Mike Keady – nothing to report other than PennEast is working on gathering data. They are required to conduct studies including endangered species.

Route 519 Widening Project –Detour is happening. Speed limit is being enforced. Be careful, be smart, be safe, and be respectful. The bridge on Route 173 in Bloomsbury is closed.

Sub-Committees:

Stormwater Education – Mike Keady, Jerry Bowers, Susan Meacham and Maria Elena Jennette Kozak as Secretary – Nothing new to report

Trails – Ted Harwick, Jerry Bowers and Ray Note. Nothing new to report other than a recommendation by EC Liaison Thurgarland that the EC partner with the Holland Township Parks and Recreation Committee and possibly with the non-profit organization known as the Holland Township Park Association to arrange an orderly transfer of responsibility for the new trail at the Holland Park property. The subcommittee had a meeting and walked the trail. We still need signs to launch visitors to the trail in the right direction. The cork in the Kiosk is a problem and Secretary Kozak will work with DPW Supervisor Turdo about this. The signs are confusing at the junction of the County trail and Holland Trail. Better clarification is needed. A suggestion was made to put signage up regarding the rules of the trails as well as the duration of the walking trail which is about a 60 minute walk. Better mowing would be appreciated. More signs are needed in the area of the trail and the Park House. The trail is not as clear as everyone thought it would be. More information to follow.

Community Education and Outreach – Jerry Bowers, Dwight Pederson, and Susan Meacham – Nothing new to report.

The EC webpage is: <http://www.hollandtownshipnj.gov/14-ec/46-environmental-commission.html>. Please send any additions or corrections to Secretary Kozak for posting

Highlands Conformance – Jerry Bowers, Mike Keady and Dwight Pederson.

Highlands Council Environmental and Economic Sustainability Grant Awards Program update:

Secretary Kozak is working with Maser. More information to follow at a future date.

Secretary Kozak is still working with Maser and the Highlands Council as a follow up to the various Highlands Council Tasks that have been worked on. The Planning Board will need to perform some housekeeping and adoption of elements to the Master Plan. More information to follow.

Chairman Keady is still working with Maser on refining the Environmental Impact Assessment Checklist with input to come from the EC. More information to follow.

Community Forestry Plan Grant - The Holland Township Community Forestry Plan 2014-2019 expires this year. October is the resubmittal month. Green Communities Grant update: The paperwork has arrived and the Township

Committee has to approve Mayor Bush signing the documents. Congratulations we were awarded the grant. Ray Note has been working on reviewing the plan. All are encouraged to review the plan. We need to identify what we have accomplished, what is left to accomplish, what is realistic, what we want to continue with and what we want to accomplish. Remember the plan provides legal protection in the courts. Just a reminder, approximately 10 minutes was spent on this discussion and all should keep track of their time.

Girl Scout Silver Award - - Elizabeth Tamaro. Nothing new to report.

Inventory on Fauna and Flora subcommittee - David Harrison, Dwight Pederson, Ray Note and Henry Gore (emeritus) – Nothing new to discuss.

Community Day – September 7, 2019 – Secretary Kozak to order a give-away. Dwight Pederson will hopefully do the Stormwater pools for education as done in the past. Mike Keady to contact the MWA to see if they would want to participate. Someone else to contact an Alpaca Farm. Someone else suggested a bat exhibit – more details to follow.

Public Comment: No one is present in the public.

At 8:40 pm Ted Harwick made a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted

*Maria Elena Jennette Kozak*

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Environmental Commission Secretary