

Holland Township Environmental Commission Minutes

July 10, 2013 – 7 pm Meeting

Chairman Keady called the meeting to order. He read 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 , Chairman Michael Keady, Dwight Pederson and Secretary Maria Elena Jennette Kozak.

Township Committee Liaison Present: Ray Krov.

Members Absent: N/A

Let the record show we have a quorum.

New Member:

Minutes: A motion was made by Jerry Bowers and seconded by Dwight Pederson to approve the minutes of June 7, 2013 as received. All present were in favor. Motion carried.

Resignation of Chris Meyers received by Chairman Keady. His business has improved despite the economy and he is unable to volunteer his time with the Environmental Commission. He will be missed. All extended best wishes and look forward to working with him in the future.

Sub-Committee:

Stormwater Education – Mike Keady, Ted Harwick and Maria Elena Jennette Kozak as Secretary Kozak. Community Day – September 7th. Dwight Pederson suggested setting up a pool with clean water and the area outside the clean water will be water with various pollutants, with signs to identify. The kids can cast to get to the clean water. We can teach about stormwater. Thru the Clean Communities Grant we can get things as a hand out for the kids. Hooks would not be used but weights. Mr. Pederson and his family are willing to help out at community day. Secretary Kozak will work with Recycling Coordinator Turdo for the Clean Communities Grant and Jessica Neglia the Director of the Riegel Ridge regarding the space needed for the Environmental Commission. Both Mr. Pederson and Mr. Krov have pools that can be used. Mr. Pederson will get the size of the space needed to Secretary Kozak. Mr. Krov to work with Mr. Roselle and Mr. Bowers (fire company) representatives for water into the pools. Secretary Kozak will send out a Volunteer Sign Up Form as the event draws closer. We will need help for the table and for the kid activity.

Trails – Ted Harwick (chair) and Henry Gore. .

Web Page – Jerry Bowers – Nothing to update. Some consideration is being given to links to put on the web page. Mr. Bowers to send Secretary Kozak suggested links so she can follow the proper procedures for the web. Chairman Keady will also work with Mr. Bowers and then forward to Secretary Kozak. Chairman Keady will also do a Chairman letter talking about the Environmental Commission.

ERI – Jerry Bowers (chair), Mike Keady and Henry Gore. No update as the document has been forwarded to the Planning Board with the goal of having one public hearing for the ERI and Master Plan element. The Planning Board subcommittee will be looking at the approved Highlands Council version of the Master plan from 2011 and integrating the new version all with approval of the Highlands Council. Upon review, the subcommittee will forward to the Planning Board members for review. The Planning Board will also establish a date for the public hearing. There is discussion of a redevelopment option as part of the master plan. Secretary Kozak mentioned that she was of the

understanding that it would allow for a feasibility study and not a commitment of implementation. September is the target date for a Public Hearing. Just a reminder, the Highlands Council is the enforcer at this time. Mr. Bowers did remind everyone that with the exemptions list some of the power can be brought back to the municipal level if desired. Mr. Harwick asked for a printed copy of the ERI with the maps and Secretary Kozak will have that available for pick up. Mr. Krov asked Secretary Kozak to forward him the ERI as well as the minutes and the agenda.

Shade Tree and Community Forestry Plan Sub-Committee – Henry Gore, Dwight Pederson and Maria Elena Jennette Kozak as secretary. The request for a RFP has been mailed. Mr. Alpaugh of Stockton has expressed interest in submitting an RFP. The process of to whom the letters were sent was discussed with Mr. Gore suggesting that he call each person to remind them of the deadline for submittal. Mr. Gore and Mr. Pederson will review the proposals submitted. Responsible tree management will be a future topic. Secretary Kozak will send DEP representative Alex McCartney a request to receive a list of all those in Hunterdon and Warren County who have prepared a Community Forestry Program. Secretary Kozak will forward to the Committee once received.

Misc

Ray Krov – The Township is under contract to purchase the Bethany Ridge property. A preliminary contract with a Level 1 Environmental study has been performed. The Survey Company is working on a survey by the end of the month. The Title search has been done. The committee is trying to schedule time to visit the property. The property is 150+ acres. It was also brought up that the Township Committee is discussing an open space tax. If the Township Committee moves forward with the discussion then it would be put out to the voters asking them to support an open space tax.

Ted Harwick asked about the Sanitary Sewer problems with Gridley Circle. There was discussion about bonding and legal fees. The sewer utility pays for this and not the township. The township is responsible for debt and cost but it is the users who pay. A discussion took place regarding how bonds work. Mr. Harwick also asked about the Hunterdon County E-waste flyer. Holland Township has an E-Waste container available for e-waste drop off on Saturdays Only. Anyone can go to the County on the specific date but the Township has made a container available weekly.

Henry Gore has Shade Tree license plate information available for anyone who is interested.

Public Comment:

There was no one present in the audience for comment.

At 8:30 Ted Harwick made a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted

Maria Elena Jennette Kozak

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Environmental Commission Secretary