

Holland Township Environmental Commission Minutes

August 7, 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, Richard Schrack (new Member sworn in this evening) and Secretary Maria Elena Jennette Kozak.

Township Committee Liaison Present: Ray Krov.

Members Absent: Dwight Pederson

Let the record show we have a quorum.

New Member:

Richard Schrack – sworn in by Committee Liaison Ray Krov. Mr. Schrack was welcomed to the board. Secretary Kozak gave Mr. Schrack the approved minutes of the Environmental Commission for review.

Minutes: A motion was made by Jerry Bowers and seconded by Henry Gore to approve the minutes of July 10, 2013 as received. Committee Liaison Krov asked that the July 10, 2013 minutes be corrected to reflect that he does not vote. All present were in favor of approving the minutes with that correction. Motion carried.

Sub-Committee:

Stormwater Education – Mike Keady, Ted Harwick and Maria Elena Jennette Kozak as Secretary Kozak. Community Day – September 7th. Dwight Pederson has been moving forward with the 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. Again, this is so we can teach about stormwater. Secretary Kozak is working on the hand out for the kids with funds being used thru the Clean Communities Grant. All EC members are being asked to work the event. We need all day one to help with the booth and one to help with the activity. Secretary Kozak will make a spreadsheet for Chairman Keady. Mr. Keady, Mr. Schrack, M. Harwick, Mr. Gore and Mr. Pederson have all agreed to help at community day. Mr. Krov said he will be in attendance and will be able to float around all day. Secretary Kozak will have the literature ready for display.

Trails – Ted Harwick (chair) and Henry Gore. Nothing to report. Chairman Keady stated that there are small grants available thru Sustainable Jersey. Wal-Mart puts out grant money thru the Green Team for building the Green Team and then there are larger grants available for points needed for Sustainable Jersey. Chairman Keady will review this to see if something for trails is available. The Green Team would apply for this and then the Environmental Commission can work with them on a trail project. The DEP also has trail grants available. General discussion took place about the need to educate people on what trails are available in Holland Township. Jerry Bowers suggested looking into the possibility of getting help from a student (s) from the local Community College who are majoring in Environmental Science. Ted Harwick will contact the County Parks to see what is currently available regarding trails.

Web Page – Jerry Bowers – a list has been sent to Secretary Kozak and will be forwarded to all the members. If anyone has anything else to add please submit your additional link directly to Secretary Kozak. Once a master list is created then it will be forwarded for addition to our web page.

ERI – Jerry Bowers (chair), Mike Keady and Henry Gore. The update is the same as it has been. 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.

Shade Tree and Community Forestry Plan Sub-Committee – Henry Gore, Dwight Pederson and Maria Elena Jennette Kozak as secretary. Chairman Keady explained how this developed. Henry Gore explained that the subcommittee received two proposals. Upon review, it was the recommendation that Ron Farr Forestry Services be the consultant hired. Mr. Farr submitted answers to all the questions presented. When calls were made inquiring about Mr. Farr, Secretary Kozak received positive feedback and promising recommendations. Liaison Krov stated that the CFO can administer the purchase order and that Mayor Bush will need to sign the contract. A motion was made by Henry Gore and seconded by Ted Harwick to accept Ron Farr Forestry Services as the consultant for the Shade Tree and Forestry Grant project. At a roll call vote, all present were in favor. Motion carried. Secretary Kozak will work with Mr. Farr and will send the other candidate a thank you for his response. Just a reminder, Mr. Farr's proposal was for \$3,200.00 of which the \$200.00 will count as part of the Holland Township contribution. Everyone is reminded to keep track of time spent. Mr. Farr has submitted a list of documents and information that he needs to start working on this project. Secretary Kozak will work with him on obtaining the documents. Mr. Farr would like to have the plan ready by the end of this year for the state to review. Chairman Keady will work with Agricultural Chairman LaFevre on updating the Farmland and open Space lists. Discussion took place regarding the idea of selling wood, the recently signed state forestry management plan and how Holland will make the first priority public lands with privately held preserved farms being a future consideration. After much discussion, Secretary Kozak was asked to have Mr. Farr attend the scheduled meeting in October. While it is considered to be proactive to work with the director of the DPW it was decided that Mr. Turdo will not be asked to attend the scheduled meeting with Mr. Farr. Mr. Turdo and Mr. Farr will have future discussions.

Misc

Ted Harwick stated that he went from Route 519 towards Strykers Road and noticed the elaborate Solar Project that is being built.

Henry Gore stated that the EPA had a meeting regarding the Milford superfund sites, and he has a report. At a meeting he questioned the local mill sites. He has contact information if a follow up is needed. It is his opinion that polluted sites and remediation should be an agenda item for discussion. The Hughesville site is permitted and regulated. Chairman Keady mentioned that there is an opportunity to discuss redevelopment in the master plan as part of the Highlands Council Master Plan Element. This is something that the Planning Board subcommittee is considering but that there are no immediate future plans.

Public Comment:

There was no one present in the audience for comment.

At 8:45 Jerry Bowers made a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted

Maria Elena Jennette Kozak

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Environmental Commission Secretary