

# Holland Township Environmental Commission Minutes

May 7, 2014 – 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, Robert Thurgarland, Chairman Michael Keady, Dwight Pederson, Richard Schrack and Secretary Maria Elena Jennette Kozak.

Absent: N/A

Township Committee Liaison Present: Ray Krov.

Let the record show we have a quorum.

Minutes: A motion was made by Jerry Bowers and seconded by Ted Harwick to approve the minutes of April 2, 2014 as corrected. All present were in favor of approving the minutes. Motion carried.

Sub-Committees:

Stormwater Education – Mike Keady, Ted Harwick and Maria Elena Jennette Kozak as Secretary Kozak.

Nothing new to comment on Holland Township's Community Day other than mark your calendar for the first Saturday after Labor Day. Additional information to follow. There is a Hunterdon County Community Day scheduled for June 21<sup>st</sup> in Ringoes. The Holland Township Historic Preservation Commission will be in charge of coordinating participation. Our Parks & Recreation Committee has also expressed interest in participating. Discussion took place about what we would like to do with the event. Chairman Keady will contact Chairman LaFevre for information. Robert Thurgarland said he can look into county assistance for water if we wanted to do the same "pool" game we did last year at community day. Jerry Bowers will be at a Firehouse meeting and he is also going to see if the firehouse is interested in participation and if so also about water for the "pool" game.

Mill issue – Ted Harwick and Jerry Bowers. It has been noted that there is no direct line from the pond to the Musconnetcong River. Water collects and leaches into the field. Ted Harwick was able to obtain drawings that will be given to the Zoning Officer for the files. Jerry Bowers expressed concern as to why the company IPP created something like this and Ted Harwick responded that the gas company has something to do with it. He stated that work is going to be going on in the corner of Cyphers and Bellis Road. He also believes the DEP is involved.

Milford Mill – Henry Gore. The mill is being cleaned up. He has been asking if the mills in Holland could also be cleaned up. He has EPA and DEP contacts and he will reach out to them again. This formed a discussion about how to recover brownfields and to make them a benefit for town. Jerry Bowers suggested that someone check local records to see what is here as a starting point to see if the site is recoverable at all. A DEP representative can come in and talk with us. Liaison Krov to check to see if there is a tax relevant interest for Holland.

Trails – Ted Harwick (chair), Robert Thurgarland and Richard Schrack. Nothing to report. Liaison Krov mentioned that the DEP has no new money available for these projects. .

Web Page – Jerry Bowers, Dwight Pederson, and Rick Schrack – the links are up. Nothing to report.

Highlands Conformance – Jerry Bowers (chair), Mike Keady and Henry Gore. Progress is being made to produce a final version that can be adopted by the Holland Township Committee. There are some points that need to be discussed with the Highlands Council. A decision needs to be made regarding a simple methodology

or a complex methodology regarding determining nitrate delution. Chairman Keady spoke to a contact at the Highlands Coalition who were not aware that municipalities had a choice. Chairman Keady gave them our graph for review. They (specifically John Bonai) are interested in meeting with Holland representatives to discuss in detail. Chairman Keady wants to review the legal backing from the Highlands Council regarding the methodology used. The subcommittee has a list of questions after review of the template for the ordinance and will meet with Highlands Council representative Keri Benscoter prior to the next meeting. This will be on the agenda for discussion, After this, the document should be prepared for all to review. Secretary Kozak brought up the Kerr property as something that the subcommittee will need to review for interpretation of the Land Use document. The property is 18 acres. What triggers just 1 house on 13 acres. Chairman Keady discussed the cluster trigger. Chairman Keady also reminded everyone that by doing this document, the Green Team will be able to obtain points with the Sustainable Jersey program.

Shade Tree and Community Forestry Plan Sub-Committee – Henry Gore, Robert Thurgarland, Dwight Pederson and Maria Elena Jennette Kozak as secretary. Henry Gore wants the document distributed to the board members for review. There are additional questions and liaison Krov submitted some responses that secretary Kozak will send to Ron Farr for inclusion. All members are to review and submit notes to secretary Kozak who will forward to the subcommittee. Stormwater Plan questions came up and the Wastewater Management Plan is with the Highlands Council and being worked on.

Musconetcong River Clean-up April 12, 2014 follow-up. Rick Schrack attended the event and said it was a success. Participation included kids at the river and adults on the Highway. Secretary Kozak stated that when the report is submitted showing what was collected that day, it will be forwarded to the board members. Historically Holland Township sends a donation to the Musconetcong Watershed Association once the letter is received, with funding from the clean communities grant.

Public Comment: There was no one present in the audience for comment.

The Township Committee cancelled their meeting scheduled for June 4, 2014. The Environmental Commission is scheduled to meet on June 3, 3014. After some discussion, the Environmental Commission decided to move their meeting date to June 4, 2014 and Secretary Kozak will follow up with the proper procedures for changing the meeting date.

At 8:20 Jerry Bowers made a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted

*Maria Elena Jennette Kozak*

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Environmental Commission Secretary