

Minutes of October 21, 2009

Metuchen Environmental Commission

Present: Mark Herzberg, Chair, Patricia Donahue, Tom Rudel, Ann Sardone and Will Waldron, Borough Council Liaison

Absent: Kathy Busch, Brian Weeks, Arline Zatz, Steve Toth and Mike Visichelli

Minutes of the Previous Meeting were accepted

Correspondence:

- 1. One issue of the DEP Bulletin was received containing nothing of relevance to Metuchen.**
- 2. Invitation to the Sustainable New Jersey Awards luncheon to be held on 11/17/09**

Thomas Park Pond:

Plans will be made to remove the anchors to the Barley Straw Bales prior to the formation of ice on the pond and the Commission will again next spring will install the bales to help prohibit growth of algae.

Planning Board:

No Report

Dismal Swamp & Greenway:

The second session consisting of “brainstorming” and hopefully a finalization of the presentation to be made to the Mayor and Council on the Greenway Extension will be held on our regular meeting date November 18, 2009 at the Senior Center. The Commission’s booth at the Country Fair was discussed and can report public input was very positive and supportive of the Greenway Extension. Additionally, the light bulb handout was very successful, 750 pledges were obtained from “Porchlight”

Dog Park:

Still no solid information about a dog park at the CIC parcel on Whitman Avenue in Edison, the possibility of a dog park in conjunction with the Greenway was discussed.

Dog parade was again canceled; hopefully it will be rescheduled for the spring.

Recycling:

Tonnage Figures were received from DPW and Pat will review and compare these figures and report her findings to the Commission.

Edgar School and Pool Parking Lot:

No report

Open Space:

No Report

Global Warming:

The possibility of the termination of the Jitney Bus Service was discussed at the time of the meeting it was reported it will only run until the end of the year unless something could be worked out with NJ Transit at minimum or no cost to the Borough.

We are still awaiting reports on the Energy Audit from Steven Winter Associates. Reports on the Library and DPW Building should be available first.

New Business:

Next Month's meeting will be held at the Senior Center.

January will be our yearly reorganization meeting.