

| 2013 | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | SEP | OCT | NOV |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| M. Herzberg, Chair | P | P | | | | | | | | |
| D. Rasmussen, Liaison | P | P | | | | | | | | |
| A. Dohl | P | P | | | | | | | | |
| J. Schaffer | P | A | | | | | | | | |
| D. Hirsch, Planning Bd. | P | P | | | | | | | | |
| T. Rudel | P | P | | | | | | | | |
| B. Weeks | P | P | | | | | | | | |
| B. Strom | P | P | | | | | | | | |

Key: P=Present, A=Absent, Gray Box= Minutes Assigned/Taken

February 20, 2013

Mark called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Joe had previously informed us of his absence. Dan informed us in advance that he will not be in attendance at the March meeting.

Minutes of previous meeting: Approved with minor corrections. Correction of date for public meeting on Pedestrian Safety, correct date is 2/25/13 from 7 -9 p.m.

Correspondence:

- a) NJDEP Bulletin – 2 bulletins receive 1/23 and 2/6. No issues of note to Metuchen
- b) The letter to the Freeholders in support of the extension of the Middlesex Greenway was sent with the signed petitions we had collected. Congressman Pallone was copied on the letter.
- c) A letter concerning tax incentives for installation of heating systems was received from A.J. Perri
- d) ANJEC is sponsoring an Environmental Commission training session on March 23rd at Duke Farms. Mark will forward the information by email.

Dismal Swamp/Greenway – Mark spoke to Rick Lear from Middlesex County about possible improvements for Trailhead Park. Rick stated that there is money in this year’s budget to start a design for the park. Money is open space funds. The county is open to input from us. Work on the park does not conflict with or preclude work on the Greenway extension.

Beth also spoke with Nick Tufaro. There will be a public presentation about the Greenway plans on Monday March 11th at 1:30 at 40 Livingston Ave., New Brunswick. Plans are in place to take care of Hurricane Sandy damage. The potential northern extension is in Conrail’s lap. It appears that Conrail is willing to grant access up to the freight line (near St. Joe’s). There are still questions about the Texas Eastern Gas Line. The eastern extension is proposed to Crow’s Mill Road.

Dorothy will see what she can do in contacting Frank Pallone and Bob Menendez.

There are deed restrictions on the Trailhead Park property. Discussion about paving some of it for parking and our previous thoughts concerning a design competition.

Earth Day – April 20th or 27th? Thoughts include a Greenway cleanup, Edgar Woods cleanup.

Edgar Woods – Beth put Elyse in touch with Mrs. Graziano. Tax maps show that the property is partly owned by the BOE and partly by the town. NJDEP has a list of state certified community foresters. We

can work with Mrs. Graziano to draft a letter to them for inventory, grant applications, etc. The town had a tree inventory done in 2009 that covered street trees and parks, Edgar Woods may have been included. Perhaps contact Rutgers Cooperative Extension Nick Polanin (sp?)

Rutgers Sustainable Raritan River Initiative – Dorothy, Angela, and Joe attended. The meeting mostly entailed an introduction of the plan to use grant money to enhance efforts to improve the river basin. Most of the discussion was about the opportunities for towns to get involved in Natural Resource Damages in order to help fund their projects in town.

Planning Board – Nothing major to report. Requests for residence fencing on Clinton Ave., change is use from office to apartment above the former Lucca's.

High School - Dan called Foxx (?) about donating a tree. They will donate a Silver Linden to the garden.

Charles Field/Cemetery – nothing new

Stormwater ordinances – nothing new

Bike/Walk Metuchen – nothing new

Dismal Swamp Commission – Dorothy attended a meeting on February 5th. where she was elected chairperson. The commission has no money or funding. The commission is supposed to consist of two representative each from Edison, Metuchen, and South Plainfield, Bob Spiegel from the Edison Wetlands Commission (EWC), John Wiley (attorney) and two representatives from the county. The commission is pursuing a blocks/lot survey, possible wetlands survey. An application was submitted to the EWC for monies, no response yet. The next meeting of the commission is on March 5th at 7 pm at Metuchen Boro Hall. Dorothy to forward whatever information Bob has sent to her.

Next meeting: Wednesday March 20th at 7 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM – Respectfully Submitted by Angela Dohl