

Metuchen Environmental Commission

Meeting Minutes for February 18, 2015

2015	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Meeting Matrix	21	18	18	15	20	17	15	19	16	21	18	16
M. Herzberg	P	P						X				X
D. Rasmussen, Council Liaison	P	P						X				X
A. Dohl	M	M						X				X
J. Schaffer	P	P						X				X
B. Weeks	P	A						X				X
B. Strom	A	A						X				X
Planning Board Liaison – Jennifer Maier	P	P						X				X
Open								X				X
Alternate – Open												

Key: P = Present, A = Absent, M = Minutes Assigned/Taken, N = Not a Member, X = No Meeting Scheduled/Held.
Meetings held at Borough Hall, starting at 7PM.

- The meeting was Called to Order at 7:10 pm
- Minutes of Previous Meeting – typo called to order “at”, Sustainable Jersey – 2nd sentence say Beth’s email “about grant application was discussed” no time to get resolutions. Approved with changes
- Correspondence – two editions NJDEP bulletin, nothing for us. ANJEC basic training bulletin, training available.
- Sustainable Jersey update – Grant application submitted for \$2000 for school garden at Edgar Middle School. Beth Strom spearheaded this application. The Community Forestry plan came back from the state, need more historical information on the town. Shade Tree Commission contacted consultant, will put together and resubmit. SJ accepted the plan, but that didn’t necessarily mean the state would approve.
- ANJEC grant application – reviewing possibilities of what to apply for.
 - Pay for professional planner to work on open space portion of sustainability element;
 - Taking some component of the Together NJ report on the greenway, do something with their suggestions (see Together NJ report for things like signage to get to greenway, let people know it’s there, make it more well known);
 - Third option – put in for Edgar School garden grant to ANJEC also.
 - What about publicity blitz to tell people about the greenway, get greenway into google maps, digital wayfinding, other publicity options
- Jennifer discussed the Sustainability element (Rahway’s was created by smart growth grant funding). Could we do the same for Metuchen? The Sustainability Element becomes one of

the goals of the master plan, aspects of sustainability may exist in some part of the master plan, but this would enhance.

- Discussed the elements with Jennifer (see small handout) gave her information on what we know about the various sustainability element outline items
- We gave her as much info as we could on the various elements in the outline
- Middlesex Greenway – continuation towards Dismal Swamp would be helped by access to the PSE&G overpass. Jennifer to see if she can contact someone at PSE&G.
- Planning board – payment in lieu of parking being discussed.
- New business – Angela brought a cardboard container that she had received getting take-out in New York City. Discussed business outreach to get them to change containers, go to plastic 1-5 vs 6 for take-out, food tainted cardboard causes recycling problems.

Next meeting

Wednesday March 18, 2015 at 7 PM