

Minutes for the Environmental Commission March 13, 2014

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:30 pm.

Members present – Hall, Haug, Urbanski, Van der Veen, Zuzov, Dale (TC liaison).

Members excused – Clapp, Longhi

Members absent – Neufeld, Piel.

Oath of Allegiance was sworn by newly appointed member Haug.

Minutes of January 9, 2014 were approved.

No members of the public were present for comment.

\$10,000 Sustainable Jersey Small Grant – Final template to be completed this month for submission to SJ. We will then receive the \$5000 balance of the grant. All of the conservation easements were not able to be inspected, due to the extended snow/ice cover.

319h grant – No further updates, possibly weather related.

Newsletter – The members reviewed the draft provided by the Chair. Included were information on the “Jewel” Alexauken, trout fishing, the 319h grant for the Alexauken, native water loving plants, rain gardens, and stormwater. A map of Pryde’s Point-Alexauken Creek trail was included in the draft newsletter. Members will add content and edit the newsletter prior to the next meeting. Also discussed were the additions of rain barrels, invasive plants and native alternatives, an explanation of the importance of trout and why clean water is important.

The members also discussed using the newsletter to disseminate stormwater information rather than as a separate mailing.

Goat Hill Trail – Maps of current and proposed trails were provided to members.

Sustainable Jersey re-certification - The Chair reviewed the progress:

Many actions submitted in 2012 have been already approved by SJ, either because they “don’t expire” or have not yet reached the time when they will expire, totaling 140 points. The Chair reviewed these actions, some of which included ordinances, pledges, the NRI, Inventory/Upgrade of buildings, etc.

Actions which recently have been/will be completed were discussed: Create Green Team, Environmental Commission, Farmland Preservation Plans and Recycling Depot.

When complete, we will have submitted 180 points toward the 150 points needed for Bronze certification.

2013 Annual Report to the Township Committee – This was approved by the Township Committee and is currently posted on our web page.

JCP&L Substation: Discussion of the environmental impact statement, the recommendation of the EC to approve the original application and the proposed reduction of woodlands removed, as per the Woodland ordinance.

Ordinance Review: The EC will be reviewing the Woodlands ordinance when the Planning Board completes their draft. We have also been asked to write a Quarry and Mining ordinance in order to mitigate any environmental impacts from the quarrying operations.

No members of the public were present for comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Minutes prepared by C. Urbanski