

Minutes of the May 16, 2012, Island Heights Environmental Committee Meeting

Attending: Mary Judge, Pat Sherwin, Tara Church, George Kotzas, Margie Laratta, Betty Wood
Absent: Norman Scheer, Marsha Cudworth

Minutes of the April 18, 2012, meeting were reviewed. Motion to accept by Ms. Laratta, seconded by Ms. Sherwin.

REPORTS: Budget: Ms. Judge reported that Town Council had passed the boro's budget. Ms. Judge has reminded Council that our grant from the Community Forestry Plan needs approval by June 1.

Advertising: Further action on signage has been tabled at this time.

Tree Ordinance: One infraction of the ordinance was found by police and a stop-work order issued. Ms. Wood offered a list she found listing native tree nurseries in New Jersey. It was subsequently decided to order a native tree book from Forestry Resource Education Center, Jackson, for Ken Anderson when questions arise regarding replacement trees. Ms. Sherwin to procure the book.

Green Team: Ms. Church reported that Sustainable Jersey is offering a grant from PSE&G for up to \$20,000 for an environmental project. She proposed we apply in order to fund the swale project in the parking lot at the Post Office. Ms. Church offered to complete the grant application, which is due in July.

Barnegat Bay Festival: Mr. Kotzas was asked if he had gotten the rain barrel for the raffle. The question arose whether Home Depot might donate the rain barrel. Ms. Sherwin will ascertain from town hall whether we can obtain a non-profit letter to present to Home Depot for them to donate. Ms. Judge had attended a seminar regarding rain barrel use and following up the recipient to be sure the rain barrel does not end up as backyard debris. This information concerning proper use should be provided to the winner of the rain barrel. Mr. Kotzas prepared a list of coverage of our booth by members for the event on June 3.

Barnegat Bay Environmental Commission Consortium: Ms. Judge reported a successful event that she had chaired. It was attended by 50 people from various environmental groups and much information was exchanged.

Beach Plums/Bayberries: Ms. Judge received beach plum and bayberry plants from the dune planning at Island Beach State Park for our use. She proposed planting them at Long Point and at the Summit Avenue Beach. Further information as to when Long Point would be ready for such planting will be needed.

Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Sherwin, seconded by Ms. Laratta. Meeting adjourned at 7:58pm.