

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Island Heights Environmental Committee January 21, 2015

Attendees: Mary Judge, Chairman; George Kotzas, Vice Chairman; Pat Sherwin; Betty Wood

Absent: Marsha Cudworth, Margie Laratta, Tara Church

Guest: Karen Hartman

Meeting was called to order by Mary Judge at 7:00pm.

Agenda:

- Update on bioswale project
- Update on Community Forestry Plan
- Update of Tree Ordinance
- Discuss membership in ANJEC and ANJEC possible grant projects
- Earth Day/Arbor Day Events
- Sustainable Island Heights Facebook page
- Bulletin Board

Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the November 2014 Environmental Committee Meeting was made by Pat Sherwin, seconded by George Kotzas. The motion was carried by the committee and minutes approved.

Bioswale

Mary Judge has the signage and artwork for the bioswale, which are to be installed in the spring.

Community Forestry Plan

Mary Judge met with Mike LaMana's representative to further finalize the report. The plan will be presented to the Mayor and Council for approval and then to the NJDEP.

Tree Ordinance

The committee feels the ordinance needs tweaking to better clarify its verbiage concerning construction plans and their relationship to tree removal and replacement. It was also discussed how to monitor the tree permits issued by the borough. Betsy Hyle and Don Roberts volunteered to help improve the ordinance wording.

ANJEC

Mary Judge will submit the application for membership in ANJEC. An upcoming grant was discussed. Suggested projects include the lot adjoining the Cottage Museum and the alleyway easements running from Central Avenue to the bay. Barring Environmental Committee participation, Steve Berglund will be approached to see if he would like to partner on the grant.

Earth Day, April 25/Arbor Day, April 24

In celebration of the two events, it was suggested to plant a tree in the bioswale section nearest Van Sant Avenue by the schoolchildren of Island Heights. Tara Church will be asked to contact the school concerning this project. Our liaison, Sandra Snow, will be asked to have Council pass a resolution concerning Earth Day and Arbor Day. The days' events are still under discussion. Mary Judge suggested Terry O'Leary would be a good resource for leading the schoolchildren on an informal tree inventory.

Mary Judge made a motion to buy a tree for this occasion; motion was seconded by Pat Sherwin and carried by the committee.

Sustainable Island Heights Facebook Page

The Facebook page needs to be updated concerning the bioswale, Earth Day plans, and a reminder about recycling on windy days.

Bulletin Board

Our bulletin board in the Post Office needs attention, and the newly-printed “Welcome to Island Heights Waterfront!” to be given to all applicants for fishing licenses also needs to have a copy placed in the kiosk at the river grasses. George Kotzas was asked to do the latter

Meeting was adjourned at 8:18pm.