

Minutes of the April 15, 2015, Regular Meeting of the Island Heights Environmental Committee

Attendees: Mary Judge, Chair; Tara Church; Margie Laratta; Pat Sherwin; Betty Wood

Absent: Marsha Cudworth

Guests: Karen Hartman, Sandra Snow

The Minutes of the March 18th meeting were approved by unanimous vote.

Earth Day

Plans for our Earth Day celebration on Saturday, April 18 from 9am-12 were discussed. Tara Church reported giving the Earth Day flyer to the Island Heights Elementary School for distribution. Mary Judge displayed the flyer to be given out with instructions for planting and maintaining the free Willow Oak trees to be distributed to persons preregistering for the giveaway. There will a dedication service for the new sculpture and the new Weeping Birch tree installed in the bioswale. Coffee, doughnuts and muffins will be available for attendees provided by members. These activities will be followed by a town clean-up with bags, gloves to be provided by the borough. Betty Wood will direct volunteers to the appropriate clean-up location and inform them of where to leave the full bags. Tara Church was asked to send an email to Sustainable Jersey about our bioswale activities. Sandra Snow volunteered to send thank-you's to volunteers if we could obtain their addresses on the sign-in sheet.

Adopt-A-Spot

Betty Wood displayed the sample signage for the grass berms at the boardwalk. Members approved the sign and requested at least two more be made. It was noted that Public Works had trimmed and edged the grasses area. Weeding, particularly of mugwort, would be the next order of business for persons who have adopted a spot and/or Public Works jointly. Mary Judge suggested adding Montauk daisies to some berms with just grasses, such as the one maintained by the Wood family.

Crabbing in Island Heights

It was questioned whether the borough was giving out the crabbing flyer we produced. The flyers have been placed in a slot available to crab license purchasers at borough hall. It has been suggested that a commercial enterprise has its employees purchase licenses, then sell their catch via this business. Further investigation is needed.

Tree Ordinance

Another incident on Sassafra Lane has occurred when three trees slated to remain on the construction site were about to be removed. Following a neighbor's intervention, a compromise was found, and the trees were spared.

Margie Laratta was asked to check the New Jersey State Statutes concerning topping of trees in the state.

Recycling Center

Pat Sherwin noted that the borough recycling bins were overloaded, and residents were unable to dispose of their recycled debris. Sandra Snow was asked to inform Steve Berglund about this situation.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:03pm.