

Hillsdale Environmental Commission

Minutes – 5/16/2016

Members in attendance: Ed Alter, Meredith Kates, Teresa Pendergast, Scott Raymond, Elizabeth Snieckus, Tom Wiseman

Members absent: Ken Barber, Grace Biener, Sachiko Goodyear, Jack Stubbs

Guests: Bob Cinek

Meeting open: 7:15 pm

I. General Business:

- a. **Adopted minutes from 4/18/2016 meeting** - No further action required.
- b. **Membership** – Resident Bob Cinek, has been recommended to the Borough Council for upcoming appointment to the Environmental Commission. We await response from Mayor.
- c. **Budget** – No action.
- d. **Training** - At June EC meeting, Ed Alter and Scott Raymond will update the EC on the ANJEC training seminar recently attended in Morristown. Ed Alter, Meredith Kates, and Bob Cinek are to attend the upcoming Bergen County EC Conference on Thursday May 19th.

II. Correspondence:

- a. **New Correspondence** – No new correspondence.
- b. **EC Email inbox** – No new Plans.

III. Tree Maintenance:

- a. **Tree City USA Application** – The Hillsdale Environmental Commission has concluded that the EC does not have the required credentials to pursue a Tree USA application, and will need to make this clear to the EC Liaison, Frank Pizzella, and the Borough Administrator. Should Hillsdale Tree Expert, Ken Barber want to pursue the application, we ask that he let the EC know how we can support him. Scott Raymond is to discuss this issue with Ken Barber.
- b. **R.O.W. Street Tree Removal Policy** – The EC wishes to request that the DPW keep us informed, on an ongoing basis, of which Borough trees on their list of trees to be removed, have actually been taken down, and their location.

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- c. **Tree Bank** – No comment.
- d. **Street Tree Planting Policy** – No new comment.
- e. **Tree Ordinance** – Elizabeth Snieckus & Ed Alter will review current Ordinance and make recommendations for updating, and forward those recommendations to Borough Administrator, John DeJoseph.

IV. **SUEZ-United Water Reservoir, Planting & Walkway:**

- a. No new information. Woodcliff Lake is waiting to hear about grants. Ed Alter to follow up with any new information.

V. **Website:**

- a. Any new information, press releases or photos on EC activity are to be forwarded to Bob Cinek, to be posted on the EC Website. Tom Wiseman or Scott Raymond will forward any photos of the Sunday May 22, Beechwood & Cemetery cleanups, to Bob Cinek for inclusion on the EC website.
- b. A subcommittee for website management/maintenance will include Bob Cinek, Meredith Kates and Ed Alter.
- c. Community Life/Pascack Press newspaper article, regarding the Smith School seedling and Arbor Day plantings, will be added to the EC Website.

VI. **Planning and Zoning:** No new applications for review this time.

- a. **Plan Review Referral Form** – Reformatting of Borough Referral Form by Ed Alter, has been prepared & reviewed. It will be used, going forward, in Site Plan Review requests from the Planning Board.
- b. **Industrial Zone Redevelopment** – The Borough will be reviewing and proposing changes to the Industrial Zone. No further discussion at this time.
- c. **Caliber Property** - The application has been finished and approved. The EC must decide what we would like to do regarding funds from this application, to be submitted to the tree fund replacement program.
- d. **Paterno Property** – EC review comments have been submitted. No new action required.
- e. **PSE&G Application** – May 17, PSE&G held a design development concept meeting, for Phase 3 conceptual Site Plan, with a subcommittee of Planning Board Members. Plans will be upcoming.
- f. **Walsky Property** – EC review comments have been submitted. Their application will be heard June 9th by the Hillsdale Planning Board. No action is necessary at this time.

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VII. Outreach Events:

- a. Pascack Valley Bible Church** – Will hold their Faith Day of Service, Sunday May 22, and will be conducting a clean-up of Beechwood Park. Scott Raymond to follow up with the Church representatives.
- b. United Methodist Church** – Will be conducting a clean-up on Sunday May 22, of the Hillsdale Cemetery, located between Hazelwood Ave and Yesler Way. Tom Wiseman to follow up with Church representatives.
- c. Bi-State Clean UP Day** – Tom Wiseman has returned all borrowed materials to the County, which were used for Clean Up Day. Meredith will follow up for submission of grant requirements for funding for partnering Boy Scout Troop.
- d. Eco Fair Day** – No comment
- e. Arbor Day** – John DeJoseph has informed The EC that Saint John's Academy has an extra street left over from Arbor Day planting and would like to donate it to Hillsdale, for planting, (possibly at Veteran's Park in the center of town).
- f. Memorial Day Parade** – The EC will not be marching in the town Memorial Day Parade this year.
- g. Hillsdale Town Day** – June 11, 1:00-5:00pm, at Stonybrook Swim Club. Sachiko Goodyear will attend, and provide some interactive program for children and residents, to generate funds for the EC. Meredith Kates will contact Ceil Power to see if they are interested in attending the event with their energy audit program registration.

VIII. Hillsdale Schools:

- a. Sustainability for Schools** – No comments.
- b. Smith School Green Fair** – Will not be having any events due to conflict with PARCC exam scheduling.
- c. Meadowbrook Green Fair** – (June date pending)

IX. Future Initiatives:

- a. Bee Hives** – EC to make recommendations for bee hive locations within the Borough, and to provide educational programs for interested residents.
- b. SUEZ Walking Path** – Ed Alter to follow up with any new meetings with SUEZ.
- c. Electric Car Charging Stations** – No comment.

Meeting adjourned: 8:55 pm

Next Meeting: June 20, 7:00pm