

Hillsdale Environmental Commission

Meeting Minutes March 18, 2019

Members in attendance: Meredith Kates, Ed Alter, Steve Goodman, Fred Rubel, Scott Beckman, Adam Tate

Liaison: Frank Pizzella

I. Commission Business

- a. Call to Order (7:05 pm) and approval of minutes from Feb. 18, 2019
- b. Correspondence and email-
 - 1. Resident email (Haralambos Zizikas- address not provided. Two dead trees in easement. Forwarded to Borough Administrator and Liaison. He called arborist and arborist said it is town's property. We will talk to BA.

II. Community Advisory

- a. Alexander Cleaners- update from Mark Herzberg
 - 1. They will be starting the asbestos survey. Will need permission to get into the neighboring Bank
- b. Community Forestry Update (including arborist report)
 - 1. Steve and Scott R. to attend training (March 23)
 - 2. Waiting for arborist report.
- c. Tree Ordinance Status Update
 - 1. Ed spoke with Steven Segalis. Steven did not want to talk about tree ordinance at the planning board meeting. Ordinance will be on the next Council meeting agenda. Steven should have discussed with Ed.
- d. Suez Walkway
 - 1. There was an article in the Pascack Press.
 - 2. The issue is still in front of the Water Board for review and approval. Probably not going to happen this Spring.

III. Spring EC events

- a. Bi-State Clean-Up Date (April 27, 2019)
 - 1. Update flyer- update and distribute – Scott B. to get this week.
 - 2. Plan to pick up supplies from Bergen Utilities (week of April 22nd)
 - 3. Coordinate with Inserra – the event will be promoted chain-wide – about 50 employees attending.
 - 4. Order volunteer lunch.
 - 5. No rain date.
- b. Arbor Day- update
 - 1. confirmation of trees requested, ceremony dates attendees and tree locations
 - 2. Bob is coordinating with schools.

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c. Seedling Give Away Program

1. Press release prepared and sent to BA.
2. Flyer for library (or other locations)
3. On April 13, EC members are needed to label and sort seedlings.
 - a) Friday the 12th seedlings are being picked up.
 - b) Labeling will be done on Saturday the 13th at the DPW.
 - c) DPW will bring to schools Monday (April 15).
 - d) Scott R will be picking up extras for return to DPW Monday evening.
4. Posted on Hillsdale Happenings website.

IV. Trainings/Presentations

a. March 7 Coyote Program Presentation- Steve attended

1. Oradell Environmental Commission – informative but not overly scientific.
2. There is a powerpoint on web that can be linked to our site
3. Discussed how the coyotes got here, biology, ecology, and how to interact. State level task force. We are not an ideal habitat. Population is slowly increasing. Do not transmit rabies. Almost impossible to get rid of.
4. Steve asked about Saddle River controlling coyotes. Doesn't make sense for one town. State was happy that Saddle River is addressing the problem because it raises awareness.

b. ANJEC Conference

1. Rescheduled for May 18th. Snowed out.

c. Sustainable Hub Meeting- March 25 (Ridgefield)

V. Planning/Zoning

a. Walsky update

1. Minor changes to plan
2. Nothing in terms of the number of trees coming down.
3. Started taking down trees.

VI. Long Range Items- Updates

ERI

We will contact the contracted Borough Planner (Darlene Green) to see if we can get GIS maps of Hillsdale. Scott B. will email Frank with information for request.

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Notify Chris to review the preliminary index of open space inventory.

Check to see if the Council passed a resolution supporting the ERI.

Styrofoam Drive- Adam

Recycling hub on Monday March 25th in Ridgefield – many towns are doing the drive and recycling. Let Adam know.

Additional Business

The Town is continuing to remove trees. An ash was removed and we will get samples for a display. We can put pictures on the website.

Dead trees on Suez property. Will they replant?

Scott B. noticed that Waste Management was handling industrial sludge from a party at Berry's Creek. Will send Frank link.

Meeting adjourned: 8:10

Next Meeting: April 15, 2019 at 7:00 pm