

Hillsdale Environmental Commission

Meeting Minutes June 17, 2019

Members in attendance: Meredith Kates, Scott Raymond, Ed Alter, Steve Goodman, Fred Rubel, Adam Tate, Scott Beckman, Frank Pizzella (Council Liaison)

I. Commission Business

- a. Call to Order (7:06 pm) and approval of minutes from May 20, 2019
- b. Correspondence and email
 1. No emails or correspondence
- c. Budget Update/Tree Bank - no budget updates, tee shirts need to go out to another vendor
- d. PR/Website
 1. Meredith talked with Bob about updating website
 2. Post arbor day articles (not from EC)
 3. Scott R. will send pictures from "Be the Church" (volunteer day for the church)

II. Community Advisory

- a. Alexander Cleaners- no new updates
- b. Community Forestry Update
 1. The HEC reviewed the Mayor's responses to our submitted questions on the arborist's report
 2. The HEC prepared final comments/questions to the Mayor's responses as follows:

HEC Initial Comment	Mayor's Response	HEC Comments/Questions on Mayor's Response
List of priorities?	Dead trees and high risk first	Request the list and order, time requirements, and mechanisms for outreach.
How is the scope decided?	Originally for ash trees, scope limited to 86 trees, based on plan.	What is the process beyond 86 ash trees. Will the DPW be responsible? We assume that the tree ordinance will deal with other trees. Who should be notified and what is the process?
Recommendation for canopy	Mayor will remove from plan and change strengthen to review.	HEC requests clarification .
Was the new proposed Tree Ordinance presented to the arborist for review.	Mayor will provide proposed TO to arborist for review.	We recommend that the new proposed tree ordinance be adopted. This would strengthen the existing ordinance as suggested by the arborist.
Additional Clarification Requests		
Hillsdale Tree Replacement policy – What is it? How is this different from the existing process?		
Provide more information about the no tree loss process.		

3. Frank to update the Council process on adoption of the Community Forestry Plan for the EC and related resolution establishing Shade Tree Commission.

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4. HEC requests confirmation of the public discussion meeting date.
5. Frank reported that the Council was asked to vote on the Forestry Plan but it was pulled from the agenda.
- c. Tree Ordinance (TO) Status Update
 1. Borough attorney is being asked to draft a TO and will review all iterations of the EC drafted TO
 2. The draft TO will be submitted for public comments (30-days), then voted on for adoption.
 3. Hillsdale tree replacement process will be incorporated into the Tree ordinance.
- d. "Streetscape" grant awarded
- e. Suez Walkway Update- Ed – no update
- f. Regional Deer Meeting- June 5 update (Steve Goodman)
 1. Englewood Mayor's meeting on deer population control. Each town is on its own. Closter, Demarest, Englewood.
 2. Animal protection league – will have their own panel discussion.
 3. State - two options – nothing or hunting.
 4. Steve talked with the Mayor on deer problem – educating the public (don't feed). Steve told Mayor that he is just accumulating information at this time.
 5. Rivervale is going ahead with their hunt.
- g. Plastic Bag Ordinances- regional updates - tabled

III. Spring EC events/future events

- a. June 8 "Be the Church" Park Clean-Up and Follow Up- Scott R. – 27 people. They did a great job.
- b. Emerald Ash regional public event (planning)- Steve – contacted Pam Zipse – will be happy to give a talk with PowerPoint . Schedule for the Fall. Should be regional.

IV. Trainings/Presentations

- a. Sustainable Bergen Hub – no updates

V. Planning/Zoning

- a. Built for Success LLC, 10 Orchard Street
- b. 333 Washington Avenue (resubmit)

VI. Long Range Items- Updates

- a. ERI- Fred/Scott – No updates

Meeting Adjourn: 8:53 pm

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