Roxbury Environmental Commission (REC)

February 10, 2011 Minutes

Meeting Commenced at 7:37 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance:

Present: Bill Benkendorf, Tricia Fragale, Linda Lutz, Mena Schultz, Jackie Vitiello, Roberta Wiener, Martin Schmidt
Absent: Bob Schultz
Public: RHS Environmental Club advisors: Meg Fagan and Robin Evensen; Stan Nathanson; Kim Hopkins.

Review of meeting minutes:

Minutes from the January 13, 2011 meeting were accepted.

Matters Presented by the Public

None

Matters Presented by Commissioners

Jackie Vitiello: ANJEC Report – Jackie passed out a 2010 year end summary for review prior to submission to ANJEC and is looking to do a press release. She would like to indicate in the report that the REC works closely with the HS club.

Library display case – in addition to the above, Roberta Weiner indicated she'd be away and so Tricia Fragale will fill in for her. The sunflower seed/bee-keeping project will be included in the display case. Marty Schmidt will email to Tricia a photo that can be used.

Administrative Topics

Administrative Concerns:
Budget: Mena has been attempting to meet with Diane from Town Hall, but has not yet been able to.

Website: Mena reported in Bob's absence: Bob needs to diagnose some computer problems.

RHS Environmental Club Update: Meg Fagan discussed possible Power Point presentations they might do with respect to the Environmental Center at the community garden.

- They are looking to get a student liaison to attend the REC meetings.
- Tricia Fragale suggested that a portion of the library case be devoted to the new Environmental Center and she looked to Meg and Robin for ideas the Club might have for the case.
- Meg said the club is not going to sell reusable bags after all. They will have the coffee mug fundraiser.
- ANJEC dues are paid. Commissioners are entitled to attend ANJEC programs for free. Commissioners are encouraged to take advantage of the free seminars and workshops and report back to the REC.

Planning Board Liaison:

- Linda Lutz discussed the Gedicke/Lake's End Marina application before the zoning board of adjustment. (Block 10101, Lot 48, 91 Mt. Arlington Blvd., ZBA-09-00036, Preliminary Site Plan). The applicant is improving the site from its current gravel yard. There will now be a drainage system in place to address runoff.

- Linda discussed Russell Stern's memo requesting input from Township committees regarding the Master Plan Reexamination report. It was recommended that we ask the master plan subcommittee look at such issues as tree removal, renewable energy (e.g. solar and wind) and LEED design standards. We will also suggest the use of ANJEC grants to help with ordinance reviews and writing.

Chris Raths, Township Manager, visited the REC:

- ANJEC grant: the deadline is March 21, 2011. Tricia suggested requesting money to review/update environmental ordinances. Tricia will email Chris as the contact to work with Melanie in the engineering department.
- Fenimore Landfill: Chris explained that the applicant initially applied for a tree removal permit. Subsequently the applicant's attorney advised them that they don't need Roxbury's permission because it is in the jurisdiction of the NJ DEP. Work will commence on February 15, 2011 and will be approximately 200 to 300 feet from Lazarus Road. Russell Stern has a list of the conditions.
- Demolition of building at the garden: Chris stated it would be as soon as the snow clears.

Mail: Circulated among Commissioners during the meeting.

Projects/Activities

Community Garden/Environmental Center

- Registration will occur throughout March; we will be ready for April.
- Bee Keeper – Exploring different options.
- Sunflower field to be researched and set up. If the original plan does not work out, we hope that Mr. Ashley can help us; Tricia asked Marty Schmidt to call Mr. Ashley to find out about timing and cost.
- We will put a flyer in the registration materials for a seminar by Stan. We will also provide registration materials at the seminar.
- We hope that the Recreation Department can set up a way to register by Community Pass (an online service).
- Bill Benkendorf said he could provide a container for the disposal of the debris from the demolition.
- We need to measure the pad for exact specs.
- Shed: we are behind schedule.

Plans for 2011/Events

- Assist Township with updates to plans, ordinances, etc.: Discussed with Chris Raths [see above].
- Stream Sampling: no discussion.
- Library display: [see above].
- Suckasunny Day: no discussion.

Next Meeting

March 10, 2011. There might not be a quorum for March 10, 2011 so the meeting might be moved to March 17, 2011.
Volunteer for next month's minute taking: Tricia Fragale.

Adjourn

8:40 p.m.