

Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes

Nov 11, 2014

Present: J. Bay, M. Kaplan, A. Rankin, M. Vyff

Members of the Public: None

Administrative: Minutes from September were approved. Jackie to update all minutes on new borough website and correct spelling errors and lack of content on home page. Marnie agreed to maintain the two sites in 2015. There is no volunteer for Secretary in 2015.

Membership: Potential new members were discussed (I. Rose, N. Wright) including the inclusion of a new high school junior membership. It was proposed that this member could come from Mr. Fewell's environmental club in the high school.

Commission Projects

Sustainable Jersey: Marnie reported that she will be accepting the award in Atlantic City on November 18th. She said that the rain garden in front of DPW will be completed this week and that there was a good article in ML Living. Her Green Team will be on hiatus until the new year.

Waterview: The Morris County Open Space Committee did not recommend funding this acquisition and it is believed that the Freeholders will follow their recommendation. This is hopeful news.

MLenvironmental.org Update: Jackie followed up with the County about the MCPRIMA GIS links that were once live as part of a pilot project. The County reported that the person responsible for maintain this useful project was no longer employed and hence, they had decided to terminate the service.

Recycling: Mimi reported a continued problem with the hauler that even flattened cardboard is being put into the trash. She reported that M. Prusina was supposed to be setting up a meeting with the hauler regarding compliance. The group talked about raising the community's awareness about how recycling was supposed to be handled by the hauler and asking their help in policing. This will be a focus area in 2015.

Mimi also reported that Ms. Schmidt was the recycling champion in Wildwood. She is going to try to add centralized hallway recycling bins and install a cafeteria procedure. There is talk of a waste audit at Wildwood.

Committee & Commission Reports

Shade Tree Commission: Marnie reported that STC has concluded that the new iTree computer program will not work for ML tree management. Given that they do not want two un-integrated systems, they will not move.

Lakes Committee: Allison reported that the beaver trapping at Birchwood is ready to begin and that Jim Bailey is retiring.

Woodlands Committee: Margaret reported via email that the deer management cull is in progress.

New Business

2015 EC Goals: The following were discussed; final goals need to be adopted in December.

- Increase recycling community education via articles
- Increase hauler compliance
- Install one time a month Styrofoam recycling
- Maintain silver sustainable jersey certification for 2018

Joan Best's Retirement: It was discussed that we should write an article for Neighbor News highlighting all the great work that Joan has done on the environmental front for ML. Jackie agreed to take this on and will bring a draft to the December meeting. It was also discussed that a party should be held in her honor.