



**Minutes of the Berkeley Heights Environmental Commission
February 04, 2013**

ATTENDEES

The following commission members were present:

Richard Leister, Ed Delia, Ronald Loria, via phone, Leonard Berkowitz.

Meeting Called To Order

Richard called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm

Minutes

The meetings from the previous meeting were approved.

Eagle Scout Project

No news on stream de-snagging. Waiting on feedback from Kevin-Tom Pirone-Eagle Scout Project. Pat Matarazzo mentioned there may be ANJEC grants for de-snagging during his presentation. This needs further investigation.

Recycling

Stephanie was not present to update progress toward programs at schools to install recycle bins.

Community Forestry Grant

Following up to Kevins work with Tom Bocko to integrate the new CFMP into our municipal processes including identifying any new ordinances needed...Richard recommended that we have the Professional Arborist Stephen Schuckman sit in one of next meetings.

Anti Idling Campaign

Stephanie was not present to update progress with meetings with the principal of the middle school to discuss an educational campaign.

Sustainable Jersey

Len circulated a list of what needs to be done by June 2014 to maintain our silver qualification and asked commissioners to read it and step up to lead several tasks each for discussion at the next meeting. Leonard and Richard both gave briefs on presentations at recent ANJEC Meeting which included: Form B Zoning Practices at Marlboro NJ. Property Tax Credit Points to encourage local shopping. Visit Propertytaxcredit.com for details.

Downtown Development Committee.

No news. Discussed follow-up to Kevin Hall's suggestion to have members of all committees and boards to meet as a sub group to communicate initiatives and to make sure we are all on a common page regarding project work.

Peppertown Park

The unplanted area has been covered with plastic. Planting will resume in the spring.

Membership

Stephanie should eMail the Mayor to request continued membership. She will be moving to Mountainside but continue to own property in BH. Pat M said that the Rockaway EC has a member who does not reside in town.

Masterplan

Suggestion made for a BHEC member to act as liaison with efforts of BHDBC parallel to activity with Town planner Mike Mistretta. For example new development should include requirements for bike racks, native trees, pervious pavers etc.

New Business

Community Garden concept. Ed Delia believed there were a few areas that may be suitable and would investigate and report back to the Commission. Rutgers Extension Service offers advice and presentations on Starting Gardens.

Communication

There was a Feb. 7th meeting planned with Nick Schiavo Group that was open for a commission member to attend.

Plans

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50 Twin Falls Road, Berkeley Heights NJ. Plans show Tree removal and Planting of several Evergreens (not specific to species). Suggest native trees. Pavers are not specified as porous or not. Ground water recharge for area is >12.0" per year. It's not in wet land according to town maps. Suggest permeability testing.

120 Roland Road, Berkeley Heights NJ
None of the coverage exceeds the maximum. Denial was due to set back. Suggest native trees be planted.

Sustainable Jersey

See brief above from January 29th meeting.

Discussed possible advertisement looking for volunteers for green team that would assist in filling Commission Vacancy and Points toward Sustainable NJ Silver Status.

CLOSING

Meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.
Next meeting is March 4, 2013 at 7:30pm
Respectfully Submitted, February 23, 2013
Ron Loria