

**Minutes of the Berkeley Heights Environmental Commission
Oct 21st, 2013**

ATTENDEES

The following commission members were present:

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| ✓ Ed Delia | ✓ Ron Loria |
| ✓ Kevin Hall | ✓ Jaime Salazar |
| ✓ Richard Leister | ✓ |
| ✓ | |

Guests:

- ✓ Christina Lewis (Comm. Garden)

Meeting Called To Order

Richard called the meeting to order at 7:45pm

Minutes

Approved minutes from Oct 7th, 2013 Meeting.

Stream De-Snagging

Kev – Desnagging - Matching grant of \$10000 by the Town in addition to the State’s grant of \$20000 is the available funding for project. Tree King has been selected from the Morris Co. cooperative to take on the project. Additional trees have been added to the final list and no special arrangements have been made to include trees in properties of EC members. Brooks –

Chestnut will work w/ DPW and Engineering to continue to clean up brooks in Town. Passaic River - Union Co. freeholders have passed resolution to pass grant to work on Passaic River project. BH will be allocated money to work on BH specific needs. Team involved on project has identified BH portion of river as worst shape. Union Co. Parks commission will use GPS mapping to identify accurate problems along river.

A review of Town’s ordinances must take place to ensure that is, as EC agrees, trees within a property and along right-of-way of the property are responsibility of the property’s owner.

Downtown Dev. Committee.

Ron - There are four sponsors for Clock project. Promoting to take place soon. Discussions with Tom Perone about permeable materials for project. Tom believes Master Plan does not indicate the need for permeable materials and Ron would like to propose an ordinance to require the use of that specific material.

Recycling

Rich - EC will reimburse GLHS for purchase of recycling bins.

Community Forestry Grant

Rich – No update. Waiting to hear back from Steven Schuckman. Town was updated about hazard trees.

Anti-Idling Campaign

No updates

Sustainable Jersey	No updates
Membership	No updates
Community Garden	Christina – Survey has shown interest in project. The results show: 68 responses (63 support the garden project [10 of these did not really understand; 12 planning; 15 designing; 27 renting and volunteering; and 10 just rent]; 2 indicated that do not support it). Possible sites for project narrowed down to Snyder Ave and Horseshoe Ave.
Peppertown Park	No updates
ANJEC	Rich – Opportunities for students to volunteer were found at the ANJEC meeting.
Plans	<p>1st – Plans for 21 Willow Way. variance for an addition. Impervious coverage maximum exceeded. EC recommends removal of any down spouts to street and a rain guard is built.</p> <p>2nd – Plans for 96 Baker Ave. variance for an addition. Zoning found set back requirements not met but impervious coverage is currently exceeding the allowed maximum and with addition it would increase to over 30%. EC recommends removal of any down spouts to street and putting of a dry well.</p>
New Business	<p>1st – Engineering Office sent a communication to Mayor’s office, Town Council and EC to inform everyone the Zoning Board members were unaware of the Green Building & Design Practices ordinance and therefore have not required applicant to complete and submit a the form that lists all of those met requirements. The ZB suggests a change be made to the ordinance to exempt residents seeking approval on additions or renovations. Neighboring town has similar Green Building practices that will be reviewed by Rich and Len. EC supports the current ordinance.</p> <p>2nd – The Storm Water Management Plans submitted by developers must be properly reviewed by town. Rich submitted to the Town council a review of the current state of this process and the potential liabilities for not monitoring the plan correctly.</p> <p>3rd –Township recommends that best practices in communication include EC minutes posted on town website with help of Town communications group.</p>
CLOSING	<p>Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm. Respectfully Submitted, Nov 11th, 2013 by Jaime Salazar</p>

Next meeting Nov 11th, 2013