

# Minutes of the Berkeley Heights Environmental Commission

## January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014

### ATTENDEES

The following commission members were present:

- ✓ Ed Delia
- ✓ Ron Loria
- ✓ Richard Leister
- ✓ Jaime Salazar

Guests:

- ✓ Christina Lewis (Comm. Garden)

**Meeting Called To Order** Richard called the meeting to order at 7:45pm

### Minutes

**Stream De-Snagging** No updates.

**Downtown Dev. Committee.** Ron – The committee will meet next week and will discuss Enrite Gas Station issues with not complying with Downtown Beautification committee’s guidelines on the pavers they chose to use.

**Recycling** No updates.

**Community Forestry Grant** Rich – Hazard trees have been taken down in Section 5.

**Anti-Idling Campaign** No updates. Stephanie to check w/ Middle School.

**Sustainable Jersey** Rich – Len asked Linda to ensure any new computers the town may purchase in the future are certified energy-star. Len also met with Donna Fellazola and they discussed how schools in town have done an excellent job in reducing energy usage and Donna set out to get information on environmental education programs. Len gave Donna a copy of Sustainable Jersey criteria for education related items. Len met with Christina to discuss grant application and confirmed with Sust. Jersey that BH doesn’t need a resolution for the grant submissions.

**Membership** No updates.

**Community Garden** Town resolution has been approved.  
Christina – Town resolution to indicate garden project will approved without committing to a specific site. She can use the town resolution for grant application. Properties surveys are still pending. Madeline Denardo, Rutgers Cooperative Extension, to be asked to serve as a consultant to help with selecting a site or with the process in some way.  
Ron Loria– Flower Meadow site could be considered for garden site.  
And, also Bird Houses need work.

**Peppertown Park** No updates.

**ANJEC**

Rich – Opportunities for students to volunteer.

**Plans**

1<sup>st</sup> – Plans for Enrite Gas Station on Springfield Ave. This is the second time that the EC is asked to reviewed their application. No canopies were planned over fuel pumps and now they are requesting to put them up, therefore increasing the site’s impervious surface. EC recommends any further evaluation and approval of their request must comply with EPA and DEP regulations; and that solar panel canopies be considered to provide enough energy to power fuel pumps in case of a power outage.

2<sup>nd</sup> – Plans for 21 Columbus Ave variance for an addition – a pergola – increasing the lot’s impervious coverage. EC recommends a rain garden or equivalent solution.

3<sup>rd</sup> – Plans for CVS landscape on their new proposed store. Initial proposed changes were made where native plants were suggested to be planned for instead of other non-native species. EC recommends, again, trees along sidewalk and street must meet a size that is short and safe enough and that will not pose potential power line problems.

**New Business**

No new businesses.

**CLOSING**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 by Jaime Salazar

Next meeting Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014