

**Minutes of the Berkeley Heights Environmental Commission
March 3, 2014**

ATTENDEES

The following commission members were present:

- ✓ Ed Delia
- ✓ Richard Leister
- ✓ Leonard Berkowitz
- ✓ Ron Loria
- ✓ Kevin Hall
- ✓ Deborah Plotnik
- ✓ Helen Kirsch

Guests:

- ✓ Christine Lewis

Meeting Called To Order

Richard called the meeting to order at 7:40pm

Minutes

Minutes from the Jan 20, 2014 meeting were approved.

Stream De-Snagging

Kevin notes in this year's budget (to be approved) there is a line item for money to be available on stream disengaging. Available for matching grants.

Grant application for DEP and surrounding communities through the County: No Update

Len believes our work toward Stream De-s snagging may be something we can demonstrate to Sustainable New Jersey Category "Other Innovative Action".

Len suggests Jorge Casacuberta, Assistant Director of Public Works, write up the stream de-s snagging action

Downtown Dev. Committee.

DBC is working toward ordinances to allow review of site plans in front of the zoning board as in the case of the BHEC.

Recycling

No Update

Community Forestry Grant

Waiting on Steve Schuckman to provide his Completed Drafted Community Forestry Plan. Richard to follow up on CEUs with the State.

Anti-Idling Campaign

Helen notes there is in existence a state anti idling law, which applies to diesel only. Helen will follow up to see if it applies to gas engines.

Sustainable Jersey

Len asked that we pursue our assignments to meet deadline for June.

Membership	No updates
Community Garden	<p>Littell Lord site:</p> <p>Kevin motioned to suggest spring water and soil testing by the town. Christine needs access to Lord Littell Farm House to access issue with broken water pipe. And, should be able to take samples (soil and water) and source a testing lab. Richard to check on soil sample testing at Rutgers.</p> <p>Innovative ways to increase Garden Committee size where discussed. Of 80 applicants only 3 are willing to participate on the organization side of things. Christine needs 6.</p> <p>Kevin will speak to Senior Citizens March 18 on the topic of community garden plan to provide a free plot in exchange for position on organizing committee.</p> <p>Christine estimates 42 Plots 6'x 12' would be available.</p>
Peppertown Park	No updates
Storm water Ordinance	Next Meeting – consideration should be made to attend ANJEC course on storm Water Management
Hazard Trees	No updates
Clock Plaque	Application and check submitted by Friends of Pepper Town. Approximately 50 % of plaques sold.
Low Impact Checklists for Planning and Construction	Some discussion and recommendations were made on how and when this check list is to be distributed. Deborah will further refine list. List should be circulated to Township departments once we complete the draft.
ANJEC	<p>Open Space Grant has been posted for \$1,500 and 80 Volunteer Man hours. Richard will follow up with Betty Ann Kelly for a possible Passaic River Park / Scout Project. Ron and Ed discussed viability of extending the Passaic River park trail beyond Robbins Brook. Ron will reach out to Eagle Scout as this project to be a possible fall back position to previously discussed PTP Clock Landscaping.</p> <p>Tree Stewards of Union County (Natural Resource Inventory) reviewed list and measured (noted as significant trees). One of which is in Peppertown Park which is 100 years old. Helen will investigate Farmhouse Tree and report location for further follow-up by tree steward.</p>

Plans

32 Cedar Green Lane – expand over existing structure does not significantly increase impervious coverage

86 Delmore Ave does not significantly increase impervious coverage either. Thus no comments will be made by the Commission.

CLOSING

Meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, March 04, 2014 by Ron Loria.