

**Minutes of the Berkeley Heights Environmental Commission  
June 16, 2014**

**ATTENDEES**

The following commission members were present:

- ✓ Ed Delia
- ✓ Richard Leister
- ✓ Leonard Berkowitz
- ✓ Ron Loria

Guests: None

**Meeting Called To Order**

Richard called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm

**Minutes**

Minutes from the June 3, 2014 meeting were approved.

**Stream De-Snagging**

**No Update**

**Downtown Dev. Committee.**

Ron presented Urban Landscape Publication from Rutgers Cooperative extension at the last Beautification meeting. The Publication will be used as reference for Downtown Beautification Guidelines on Streetscape design.

**Recycling**

Nothing to report.

**Community Forestry Plan**

Has been approved and waiting on final draft so it can be posted on BHEC website.

**Tree Survey**

Plans are to continue Tree survey to remaining areas of town. Richard will send e mail to request volunteers' interest to work toward finishing the survey. The work includes measurement of size (DBH) and note condition.

Deleted: consists of

**Anti-Idling Campaign**

Stephanie Z. delivered 4 signs to Columbia Middle School; four signs TBD.

**Sustainable Jersey**

We should hear back in July on award and hopefully receive once again, as a Municipality, Silver Status under Sustainable NJ

## Community Garden

Christine Lewis was not available for the meeting however has developed the following list of action items geared toward improving community awareness of the merits of a community garden. The following excerpt is from an e mail from Christine to Richard.

1. Christina to meet with Tiffany Escot to discuss possible partnering.
2. Christina and EC to pen an editorial about the benefits of a community garden in our town (to be published around the beginning of July).
3. Start Facebook page and Yahoo! Groups for Berkeley Heights Gardeners to share, trade items, post pictures and articles and network with town folk and other community gardeners.
4. Find ways to gather support from local businesses for a garden (via letters of support) by emailing Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club and local Real Estate business owner
5. Christina to set up additional meetings at library now that school will be finishing.
6. Christine will be send an email to an acquaintance who works at Alcatel-Lucent to see if there is interest in setting up a community garden on their lawn.
7. Would like to publish an article in the Alternative Press looking for a suitable site.
8. Invite the town council to a walking tour of a nearby community garden.

## Scout Projects

No discussion. Downtown Beautification Committee (BHDB) request a subcommittee meeting with BHEC members to brainstorm scout projects ideas. Len Berkowitz expressed interest and will be willing to meet with Ron Loria also of the BHDB Committee if his schedule allows.

## Low Impact Checklists

Action Item: **Kevin to review Deborah Plotnik Checklist with** Bob Miller of the Board of Adjustment and the Planning Board.

## June 29 Fair

Several action items developed by Commission Members to provide handouts on Community Garden, recycling, Passaic River Park Maps, rain barrel and compost bin raffle.

**Grants** Nothing to report at this time. No significant updates to last meeting minutes.

**Storm water Ordinance** We need ordinance specific home owners. Richard L. continues to research this topic.

**Plans** No plans

**CLOSING** 9:20 pm. The **next meeting will be July 7, 2014.**

Respectfully Submitted, July 7, 2014 by Ron Loria