

Minutes of the Berkeley Heights Environmental Commission October 27, 2014

ATTENDEES

The following commission members were present:

- ✓ Ed Delia
- ✓ Richard Leister
- ✓ Leonard Berkowitz
- ✓ Deborah Plotnik
- ✓ Ronald A. Loria
- ✓ Kevin Hall

	Guests: Christina Lewis
Meeting Called To Order	Richard called the meeting to order at 7:41 pm
Minutes	Minutes from the October 13, 2014 meetings were approved.
Stream De-Snagging	No Update
Downtown Dev. Committee	No Update
Anti-Idling Campaign	New Providence has promulgated a new anti-idling ordinance which we should review. Richard / Stephanie to see if the high school Environmental Club wants to mount a campaign; awaiting response. Christina will attend New Providence Environmental Committee meeting regarding possible joint efforts to educate the public about idling.
Recycling	Continuance of Styrofoam Re-Cycling event at high school: Richard to forward Marlene Sincaglia new teacher's name at GL who has expressed interest in Environmental Club to encourage re-cycle event at Holidays since our bulk recycle program does not take Styrofoam.
Sustainable Jersey	Berkeley Heights has obtained Silver status. Ceremony is planned to present Silver Certification at League of Municipalities November 18, 2014. A press release expected and the Commission will post on website when it becomes available. Deborah will reach out to the HS Environmental Club to see if there is a volunteer to enter utility consumption data for the BH municipal buildings into the EPA Energy Star web site as a possible science project.
Community Garden	Redwood has provided the most cost competitive price on tree removal and stump grinding. Richard to check with Barb Russo on requirements for number of bids required. Christina will review trees

marked for removal one last time before having work done and will discuss with Historical Society. Tree work to commence once receiving final Town Council Approval. Tom Bocko, tree inspector, gave approval for tree removal after his visit site on Oct 14. Christina presented plot rendition for feedback and will also present to Bob Bocchino for his formal approval. Helen to research ADA Compliance.

Ed will pursue resolution by town council.

Low Impact Checklists

List will be sent to new Town Administrator for review.

ANJEC

ANJEC has urged all Environmental Commissions to Support Question 2; and a motion was made to post support on the BHEC Website.

Scout Projects

No Action

Storm Water Ordinance

As the Township Engineer, Bob Bocchino was contacted on this subject. Bob noted in 2005 a storm water management team was in place; the commission is interested in developing this further.

Pilgrim Pipe Line

Richard Leister contacted representative to set up conference call and determine a method to field a public Q&A's. Richard attended a presentation at Kinnelon, NJ. Although the meeting room was full, he reported that pro-pipeline and anti-pipeline representatives attended. The pipeline is proposed to follow the electric power lines coming south from the intersection of River Rd and Central Ave, Chatham Township. Pilgrim Pipeline is the transporter of the oil so it must contract with the oil producer. The Tree Survey is complete.

Tree Survey

BHEC would commit to buying "Gator Bags" for new tree plantings provided DPW can install and water. This is a critical step in establishing new trees; past efforts to plant trees have been unsuccessful in areas where trees were not properly watered in.

Tree Fund / Ordinance

Richard will provide Kevin with list of trees designated for removal so Kevin can follow up with Bob Bocchino and Tom Bocko on the use of the grant money for tree removal.

Tree Pruning

A follow-up action plan is needed to determine a number of trees to be removed over the course of the next few years. Len and Rich discussed workshops to assist DPW on proper tree pruning techniques and obtain CEUs for CFMP.

New Business

Public Question: whether to dedicate State business tax to green acres

open space. State has exhausted Green Acres Fund. Len urged people to vote yes.

Master Plan

Len and Jaime will be collecting ideas and this should become a regular item on our agenda. We should have our ideas organized by year end. A preliminary list of headlines was mailed out before the meeting and commissioners were asked to comment and suggest.

Posting of Minutes

Richard was made aware that minutes are not being posted and will investigate and resolve.

Plans

No Plans reviewed.

9:27 pm. Next Meeting November 24, 2014.

CLOSING

Respectfully Submitted, by Ron Loria November 22, 2014.