

DRAFT Minutes of the Berkeley Heights Environmental Commission  
3.21.16

Meeting called to order at 7:40 PM

Attendees: Richard Leister, Ron Loria, Christine Lewis, Kinan Tadmori, David Ogens, Kevin Hall

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from 2.22.16: Misspelling of Ted Romankow's name. Otherwise, minutes were approved

**Stream desnagging** (Kevin and Ed): Kevin has nothing to report. Richard confirmed with John Bussiculo that town is going to hire third-party to do the de-snagging, but this was already previously determined.

**Community Garden:** Christina has list of people interested in helping. Looking for 1 year commitment to create a board/committee. Fundraising needs for parking lot or other aspects to be determined. Next step is presenting action plan to the township. Kevin recommends that Bob Bocchino should come to an EC meeting once we get the board/committee for the community garden committed.

**Environmental Movies:** Christina met with Lara and Scott Finley (Supervisor of Science Curriculum for the district) on March 11<sup>th</sup>. Scott reserved GLHS auditorium on Wednesday April 20<sup>th</sup> – time is TBD. As long as movie is co-sponsored event between HS environmental club and EC then liability insurance carries over, no need to purchase further insurance for the event. Recommended movie: The Wisdom to Survive. Movies may continue as a series. EC recommends that there is a speaker along with the movie (potentially a meteorologist), and agrees on The Wisdom to Survive as the movie to be shown.

**Scout Projects:** Ron will attend next Scout meeting when he finds out the date.

**Rain Gardens and Watershed Ambassador:** April 7<sup>th</sup> presentation at BHPL. Katie and Richard developed flyers, started publicity, article in TAP. Richard asked for an email to go out to all the parents of the schools. Richard will supply the flyer to the EC to be placed and/or given out at events or at businesses in which many residents are present (we are looking for Berkeley Heights residents only). Could ask the High School students of the Environmental Club to give out the flyers at churches, etc., add the event to the rec's email distribution, and utilize the town texting service. Katie and Richard are meeting with high school environmental club on Thursday 3/24 to get their help. People are asked to pre-register for the event with Katie.

**Passaic River Park Crossing:** May be a grant that we could apply for or possible Scout Project. Ron said priority for the grant is given to trails of 3-5 miles.

**Stormwater Ordinance:** Richard will follow up with Bob Bocchino.

**Tree Fund and Norway Spruce:** Tree has been taken down. Richard offered for the EC to help with tree plantings at the site, as per Ted Romankow via Tom Bocko no plantings will be needed at this time.

**Dog waste receptacles:** No update

**New Development Plan:** Kevin asked town planner that the plans for the municipal property redevelopment be given to the EC to review before the first presentation to the township, which will be sometime in April.

**Water Supply Master Plan:** Richard will send Water Supply Master Plan to Ed.

**CSIP grant:** Richard will follow up.

**Training:** Kinan and Christina attended training on Saturday 3/19. Ideas included inviting officials to more EC events, handing out reusable bags at the street fair, and a Facebook page for the BHEC.

### **Plans**

730 Central Avenue, New Providence Borough: CR Bard, Flood Hazard Area Permit application, constructing a guard booth, access lane and security fencing. No comment from EC.

Lenox and Roselle Avenue, off of Springfield: Wants to continue using the property for nursery. No comment from EC.

144 Rutgers Avenue: Construct principal addition, application is missing green building guidelines. The EC recommends that they consider rain garden.

74 Park Avenue: Constructing wood-frame chimney for gas fireplace, the EC recommends that they consider rain garden because they will be increasing impervious surface by 9 sq ft

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 PM

Next meeting is Monday April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 7:30 PM