

# Norwood Environmental Commission

March 10, 2014

## Minutes

### 8:18 pm Chair calls regular meeting to order

Christine waives the reading of the Open Public Meetings Law.

### Roll call

#### Attending:

Christine Hageman, Chair (201)835-5687

Jean Hanley, Secretary

Barbara Vanderbeck, Treasurer

Jim Elling, Vice Chair

#### Not Present:

Paul Kozel

Laurie Hageman - A

Frank Marino, Council Liaison

Dave Elling, Hist. Pres. Comm. Liaison

### Consent Agenda:

Minutes of January 13, 2013 and February 10, 2014 are tabled. Correspondence: tabled.

### Announcements:

**PB Meeting** next meeting is on 3/21/14

**ZBOA meeting** next meeting is on 4/4/14

**BCUA E-HHW Collection** – 4/6/14 9am-3pm at BCC, Paramus

### Old Business:

**PB Applications:** n/a - master plan update beginning - they need to appoint somebody to our board, because Frank Marino is our Council Liaison now, not our Planning Board member.

**ZB Applications:** Stonebridge Manor (D'Ercole Farms) - townhouse proposal – application vote carried to April – The Site Plan Review committee will meet on that application upon receipt of revised plans.

Jim and Paul represented the EC at the last ZB meeting and they report back that David Watkins proposed to take out 3 properties, but didn't bring a revised plan. The Board gave them 30 days to come back with the revised plan (April 4<sup>th</sup>). A discussion ensues.

**Fox Hill Woods** - application submittal pending engineer receipt of EC info – pending completion of the Earth Fair, because there is no time to do anything else; bench needs installation; schedule invasives cleanup; the MEVO group, that we have recently met, is ready and willing to volunteer to help us do any number of projects that we need manpower to do, like building a new Community Garden or trails in Fox Hill as well as participating in clean-ups (invasives and garbage). A discussion ensues about their participation in this year's Earth Fair.

**NV Earth Fair/Shredding Event** - Paul might have a connection to a green energy company in the Bergen County area that he is trying to get in touch with as well as asking if the place he works out at is interested in sponsoring the Earth Fair – Barbara spoke with Earth Friendly and wondered if they contacted Christine (the listed contact) – no word yet. Mike Swan set up a domain name and website for the Earth Fair (which can be used in future years as well). We can tweet as much as possible to advertise for the fair – United Water is considering their utility company table as a non-profit and they have not paid the \$50 fee that we were expecting, because they are not selling anything. A discussion ensues. A discussion ensues about Lamont's participation. A discussion ensues about the food at the fair. We need to be mindful of Chef Bob and not creating too much competition for him, because we are not sure what the turn out will be. Barbara will reach out to Books and Greetings in Northvale to see if they want to support the fair in some way. We need to send the Google doc link to Paul. The next Earth Fair meeting is on 3/20<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the Norwood Borough Hall. Christine spoke with Ethel Abrams this morning and had a long discussion with her and then Christine updated the google doc with all of Ethel's work. She will continue her efforts (Trader Joe's basket & Ofc of Clean Energy refrigerator coupons). It would be nice to have light bulbs to give away. Barbara will investigate. KJ Trivedi is checking with the state and also with

the Old Tappan CFO about the disposition of our Earth Fair fund next year. A discussion ensues. It is an educational fair at the moment, but in the future may turn more into a fund-raising fair, as well as educational.

**Finance Report** – pending – Christine hasn't had time to do this yet.

**Spring Cleanup status** - need to reschedule – Christine talked with Joe McElwain at BCDOH about getting just promo stuff for the fair, because we don't have a clean-up scheduled to borrow their equipment. He said to fill out the application and that he would lend us the equipment and that we could keep it until we can get our clean-up done. Then we send in our numbers and he will send our \$300 check.

**Sustainable Jersey** - Bronze award plaque is being mailed that says we are certified but in order to keep it we need to upload the fleet inventory by June 1 2014 (at least 95%), once we get it from the Secretary of the Police Chief. A discussion ensues about the new system that soon will be put in place. Christine hands out our Sustainable Jersey pins. We will revisit certification updates when the Earth Fair is over, but before June 1st deadline; revised grant application for \$10,000 for the ERI was denied, but we did get the \$2000 grant to support your green team in any way you want.

**Volunteers Support** – Mahwah Environmental Volunteers Organization (MEVO) –discussed above already

### **New Business:**

**PB Applications** – none – Master Plan update is being worked on

**ZB Applications** – no new applications

**BCEC Meeting Questionnaire** -Meeting Date 3/31/14 in Hackensack at 6:30; topics are Rain Gardens for Stormwater management, Sustainable Stormwater management and managing Stormwater run-off with green infrastructure (enhancing Community resiliency to the changing climate). They sent us our questionnaire asking what are our projects, goals and concerns for 2014. A discussion ensues about our response and going (car-pooling- 3 to 5 members) to the meeting. 1.)Jean mentions doing a better shade tree ordinance, Regional Earth Fair and trail installation. 2.)Should we set a County wide goal and work together to achieve it? Jim mentions doing a detailed data survey of the water shed with photos and GPS coordinates documenting the area, which could be a County wide goal if the County is interested, and also doing green infrastructure projects. 3.) Common goals and issues with neighboring towns and do you meet regionally: yes – the Regional Earth Fair (first try at Northern Valley EC collaboration). Encourage ANJEC workshops in the Northern Valley area and coordinate with the other towns. Inter-Boro Trails are also being discussed. 4.)Do you have bodies of water that you are responsible for and do you maintain them? The DPW and the EC both do clean-up of the water ways in town.

**ANJEC Open Space Grant Application** - Due 4/2/14 for a \$1500 (no match) grant that can be applied to the trail work. All agree that we will apply – ANJEC is having a land conservation rally on March 22 at Rutgers, a discussion ensues about who wants to go.

### **Open Discussion**

Rail-trail (a discussion ensues about CSX not wanting to let go of the tracks on Oak Tree Rd, across from the start of the Rail Trail in Orangeburg, NY)

Paul is sworn into the Environmental Commission.

### **Next Meeting – April 14, 2014**

Motion to adjourn the meeting is unanimous

**Meeting Adjourned: 9:19PM**

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**APPROVED**

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**Chair**

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**Secretary**