

## **Pitman Environmental Commission**

**May 2nd, 2019**

**Chairman Robert Holwitt**

The regular meeting of the Pitman Environmental Commission was held on Thursday May 2nd, 2019 at 7:29.

**ATTENDANCE:** Robert Holwitt; Patrice Sheehan; Dani Cooke; Tom Slencamp; Dare Euler; Ellen Brooks; Countney Venuti

**PUBLIC:** Andy Fox, Parks

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion made by Dani to approve April minutes; second Dare corrections: page under planning: Tom suggested adding "a sample letter be made supporting green acres funding" May 2<sup>nd</sup> is next meeting, all in favor approved.

**BUDGET: COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS :**

**RECYCLING: Fred Rodi** absent: sent report via email ADD (plastic bag challenge at Memorial) Public Works open Saturday.

**AIR & WATER: Ellen Brooks** 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade tree team. The seedlings came early when she was not home. They were moldy and needles brown. The forest service sent new white pines. Ellen distributed almost 100 Monday 29<sup>th</sup>.

**OPEN SPACE: Danielle Cooke** No report for open space

**PLANNING: Tom Slenkamp:** Not too much relating to environmental. Passed around Uptown Pitman brochure. Talking about changing some zones to allow micro breweries. No news on Sony.

**SHADE TREE: Josh Hichner** absent: sent report via text: He received confirmation for our 2018 Tree City USA and trees for Earth Day came and Dani has them.

**EDUCATION: Dare Euler:** 15 Posters K-5 1<sup>st</sup> place Isabella DeVillava 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Ms Euler, Memorial School, 2<sup>nd</sup> place Addison Laundra, Mem 4<sup>th</sup> grade, 3<sup>rd</sup> Benjamin Ulessyes Newman, Memorial, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, then middle school winner Alicia Bradley 7<sup>th</sup> Grader, no entries for HS. We will give the awards on Earth Day at 10 am. Display all posters and give certificates to all. Next year include Scouts.

**LIPARI/ALCYON: Bob Holwitt** Solitude provided info on a mesh barrier for bank stabilization. We will give measurements and they will come and survey and provide an estimate. Dani said as back up plan we should do biologists and some more trees. Maybe in fall when people are not fishing.

**Motus:**

**Unfinished Business:**

**Alcyon Woods Preservation:** Thanks to Dani and Ellen for marking shrubs and dens and they will be left alone. Today Bob, Patrice & Andy walked the trail. We resolved some issues with avoiding conflicts. Mike Razze sent a text: concerns about overlapping shared use and would prefer no signs for hiking trail. Might be a liability problem with insurance. Discussion. Razze will take the lead on that. Poison ivy was noticed along 17. Dani also noticed by 11 or 12 a hole backfilled with soil and grass. This should be discouraged. Japanese knotweed is also a problem. Andy has controlled some areas by mowing.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Earth Day 2019:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of May – May 18<sup>th</sup>. Academy of Natural Sciences arriving 11 – 1 needs tables and tent. Office Depot we have an account that we could purchase some tables. Permit has been put in. Bob will contact Andy about 6 picnic tables. Dani suggests cupcakes so we don't need forks and plates instead of a sheet cake. Ellen reported about the bee homes and holding the reeds with rubber bands. Solitary pollinators. Found a nice brochure that will show what would come to the nest. They can print 200 for \$81.45. Dare made motion to approve spending \$85 for this, Tom Second all approved. She will also print instructions on how to install and care for the bee house. Would like a poster, Dani will do to attract kids. We still have a lot of supplies so we will get cheerios and we have tree cookies and markers. Dani has pine trees, info and flag. On earth day the middle schoolers had a rally. Want to display their posters. Recycle flyer is confusing. Dani contacted the company that has deposits on milk glass bottles to get a flyer. Display items that would substitute for plastic. We have tents. Dani will do a flyer with what we are doing. Bob will call Guy Groff to see how the garden club can help. We can bring up things from the basement, Bob will get key, Thursday May 16<sup>th</sup> 7pm. We can get set up around 8. Rain date will be called the night before which will be the Sunday. Bob will contact Fred about banner.

### **Buffers**

### **Web Page**

**NJAmerican Water Grant:** Patrice will not apply for.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The next meeting of the Pitman Environmental Commission will be on June 6th at 7:30 p.m. Comcast Cares is this Saturday at Ballard Park to soil and sod, mulch and remove ivy. Start 8 or 9.

**AJOURNMENT:** There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm

cc: Environmental Commissioners

Mayor Johnson and Council