

Pitman Environmental Commission

January 2, 2020

Chairman Robert Holwitt

The regular meeting of the Pitman Environmental Commission was held on Thursday January 2, 2020 at 7:32.

ATTENDANCE: Bob Holwitt; Tom Slenkamp; Josh Hitchner; Ellen Brooks; Dani Cooke, Councilperson Amy Rudley

PUBLIC: Claire Yeager
clair.yeager@gmail.com

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Tabled til next month.

Councilperson Amy Rudley, will investigate our bylaws to determine if an associate member can vote in the absence of a commissioner.

BUDGET: No update on budget, Chairman Holwitt and Councilperson Rudley will check to see if anything is in our mailbox. Budget request are due soon.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS :

Recycling: Fred Rod Emailed:

"I will not be in attendance of meeting tonight. We are wrapping up leaf collection Dec 20th was our official last day but some residents continue to place piles out. Recycling still continues to be an uphill battle.. plastic bags continue to be in almost every load that we dump along with trash so we are getting a surcharge of \$50.00 was reduced from \$75.00. With large amount of cardboard boxes curbside we have been sending a small truck around to grab them since residents have too much to place in green recycling tote and or they are not breaking down. I will be starting to gather information for recycling tonnage report . Also we continue to collect brush and grind on a weekly basis a lot of our leaves were taken to a farm for a cost, instead of double handling it is getting more difficult to get rid of leaves and single grinds without paying especially with volume that we have. If anyone has any questions please feel free to reach out to me."

Dare sent a draft flyer to Dani to potential distribute in schools. Dani and the commission will review and provide edits.

Amy recommends creating a short clip to circulate on social media for proper recycling practices.

Bob recommended utilizing HS students and will reach out to the principle with the idea.

Dani suggested getting a clip of Fred to add to the video.

Ellen inquired about adding a prize for this project.

Air and Water: Ellen Brooks

Parks and Rec. has dumped green debris on an embankment within the Park. Bob will reach out to Dan and Andy at Parks and Rec.

Open Space: Dani Cooke

Inquired about trees in Shertle Park and last utility markout. As per our December meeting minutes they will stay in place.

Dani asked about a drainage pipe in Alycon Park. She is interested in doing a Girl Scout project in the overgrown meadow that is succeeding to forest.

Site Plan: Tom Slencamp:

Chapman application was approved at last planning and zoning meeting. Tom was not present at this meeting.

Lipari/Alcyon: Bob Holwitt: Bob proposed Jan, 16, 28, or Feb. 4th for a potential site visit of Lipari Landfill with NJDEP. Bob will request the 28th. Bob will tell Judy to make sure it is advertised.

Alcyon Park: Fall sports have finished. Ellen has seen activity on the disc golf course. Bob brought up the agreement that Parks made to purchase 50 trees due to damages in Alcyon Woods. Dani mentioned that Andy said we can utilize these in the meadow in Alcyon.

Ellen- Asked about damaged Chestnut trees. Bob passed along Andy's message that they were cut and removed prior to this email.

Shade Tree: Josh Hitchner: 6 new trees were added to the Uptown streetscape by Groff's Nursery in December.

Education: Not present

Old Business: Activities for 2020

Motion to submit corrected 2019 annual report to council. Dani motioned and Tom seconded. All were in favor.

New Business: Ellen and Bob are working to reschedule the trail blazing of Alcyon Woods in the spring. Earth Day will be held at May 16th at the Spring Craft Festival. Bob will reach out to the Academy of Natural Sciences. Bob reached out to Susan Golden about presenting an environmental topic be presented he the Pitman Middle school Dani will inquire about programs at the Center for Aquatic Sciences. Bob will reach out to the WaterShed Ambassadors about Earth Day.

Bob announced that borough government reorganization will be this Saturday at 6:30pm in borough hall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The next meeting of the Pitman Environmental Commission will be February 6th at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting ended at 8:23, Ellen made a motion to adjourn and Tom seconded, all members were in favor.