

Pitman Environmental Commission
March 5, 2020

Chairman Robert Holwitt

The regular meeting of the Pitman Environmental Commission was held on Thursday March 5, 2020 at 7:30.

ATTENDANCE: Bob Holwitt; Tom Slenkamp; Josh Hitchner; Dare Euler; Claire Yeager; Patrice Sheehan; Dani Cooke, Councilperson Amy Rudley; Ellen Brooks

PUBLIC: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was made to approve February minutes by Dani, second Dare, all in favor.

BUDGET: Feb 28th Temporary Budget: Unexpended includes Secretary:\$100.65, Materials & Supply: \$52.50, Training & Seminar: \$13.13, Alcyon Lake Testing: \$918.75, Earth Day Events: \$525.00, Misc: \$13.13, Tree Replacement: \$210.00, Special Projects: \$262.50. Dues & Subscriptions (ANJEC): paid \$490 leaving -\$395.00 for a total of \$1710.66. Should be finalized Monday.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:

Open Space: Dani Cooke: Weekend after Easter will be C. G. build up day and they want to do a Saturday night family event so they are getting approval from Council

Site Plan: Tom Slenkamp: Most was discussion about minor amendments for Merrymans Pub and they were approved and passed on to Council, this will take place before Spring. He spoke about LiPari, Recycling and he looked at the website and it said #5 is recyclable, but it is not.

Shade Tree: Josh Hitchner: Last weekend met with Ellen for Tree City USA application. Has handed it over. Facebook has people calling people out for not recycling properly. Construction debris was in recycle bin. He feels we should be more proactive. Amy said we could come up with a plan and she would present it to council. Bob says to tag it, they would be acting as an agent of the Borough doing code enforcement. Maybe a subcommittee could organize something. Would need to use an official tag. Senate passed on the State level a ban on single use plastic, styrofoam and even paper bags. This will not take effect if passed for 18 months. Josh made motion to focus on recycling awareness in a subcommittee. Fred will be invited. Second Dare, passed as all in favor. Josh will write letter per last month's minutes

Education: Dare Euler: They started using plastic gallon size bags for the breakfast instead of paper bags. She does not know why. She will talk to Kelly Brazelton. Maybe they could get reusable at some point. Infographic could go home with the kids would be helpful. Amy said it may be confusing that the #1 & 2 may be referring to the plastic bags. If we printed we would need to do in color. Dare will change this and find out how many kids are in school. Still working on assembly

Recycling: Fred Rodi: report by email:

Working on recycling report, collecting brush prepping for spring leaf collection. Recycle Coach App – Amy contacted them and got more info. Council will put on web site when we get a new website. Bob has not heard back from Fred on video. He will send out to EC. Amy will send it to Paul to check with Fred. The Mayor from Gloucester Twp has made a public service announcement on TV about no plastic in recycle. Glassboro has a bill board. Bob asked if we want to go on record with a letter in support of prohibiting plastic bags to our state Assembly. Bob will draft a letter.

Air and Water: Ellen Brooks: Tree City waiting on Rasse signature. Third Grade tree orders, may get all hackberry. Heard back from Bluebird people – looking for dates starting April 4th May have to change tree planting to March 28th

. Patrice will check with nursery, Amy will change permit date. Josh will do flyer. Would April 18th work? She will check.

Lipari/Alcyon: Bob sent John and Tom a draft of a summary about DEP taking over and our meeting with them. He wants them to check for technical info. Claire will check if they looked at it yet.

Alcyon: When do we want to clean up buffer with pole trimmers? Whenever they can get there is good now. Bob will contact them. They will leave the cuttings. Dani had Adam Mazzola coming on Sunday will be at Alcyon Lake about 11 to look at erosion.

Old Business:

Environmentally sensitive packaging as samples – Dani thinks this would be good for Earth Day.

Alcyon Woods Trail Blazing – April 4th Ellen, Bob and Patrice 10 am
April 4th - Volunteer Tree Planting at Alcyon Park 9 am
May 30th - Pollinator garden in Grove 9 am – Grant pending

New Business:

Earth Day 2020; May 16th Academy may not be doing this program on the road. Get Bob alternatives. Freedom Center for Wildlife may be a possibility. Bob will contact. Aquatic sciences.

No trees this year.

Recycling display

NJDEP – do they have a display. Claire will check out.

Josh will do a display on environmental justice. Lead paint test kits we could give away. Bob will check. \$150/48

Chamber has a wheel that we could use to give away stuff. We have multiple bins of prizes.

Pollinators, tree cookies, bird feeders

Secretary: Bob has followed up with Judy to start the process of hiring.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The next meeting of the Pitman Environmental Commission will be April 2nd at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting ended at 8:35 Josh made a motion to adjourn and Dare seconded, all members were in favor.