

November 18, 2015

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission of the Borough of Roosevelt was held on Wednesday, November 18, 2015 at 7:30 P.M. at the Borough Hall. The Roll was called by Chairperson Eitan Grunwald.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Bonna, Grunwald, Janowitz, Ticktin, Tulloss, Walz

Absent: Regular Vacancy, Van Salisbury-Alt 1, McBride-Alt 2

Resignation: Christine Oatis

New member Sharyn Walz completed the Oath and was welcomed to the Commission to complete the term vacated by Ms. Diane Lowrie. This term runs 1/15 – 12/17.

Chairperson Grunwald stated: "Let the minutes show that adequate notice of this meeting as required by Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 of the Open Public Meetings Law has been provided by posting notice on the public bulletin boards at the Roosevelt Post Office and Borough Hall. A copy of this notice was e-mailed to the Asbury Park Press and the Times [Trenton] for publication and filed with the Borough Clerk on January 26, 2015."

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chairperson Grunwald stated that the Minutes will be considered a bit later to allow Ms. Tulloss to be present, as she has let us know she is on her way.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Resignation of Christine Oatis (new baby).

REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:

Mr. Ticktin reported that the Planning Board did not meet in November.

REPORT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE:

Mr. Ticktin reported that the Council met and approved several Resolutions, one being Resolution 15-103 "Supporting Clean Water Supplies" stating "that the Borough of Roosevelt requests the Governor of New Jersey and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection release an update to the New Jersey Statewide Water Supply Plan immediately for public review and comment, and following such comment, finalize, adopt and implement the Plan." Mr. Ticktin also reported that the Borough Council approved our three requests as noted in the Minutes of October.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Forest Management – Chairperson Grunwald added to Mr. Tickton’s Council Report regarding the three requests we approved and sent to the Borough Council, namely

- (1) that our Borough Council approve the New Jersey Audubon Society for services for a plan at their \$4,900 quote; [This is subject to terms and conditions, we input our Borough Attorney, etc.]
- (2) that the Roosevelt Borough Council authorize submission of an application for a Green Communities Grant for funding to develop a Community Forest Management Plan that will qualify for NJ DEP CSIP Grants; [We will hold off submitting this Application until we see how things are developing with the Forest Stewardship Plan. Once we submit the Application, if we are approved, we have to begin hiring.]
- (3) that the Roosevelt Borough Council appropriate funds in the 2016 Budget to authorize payment for the municipal match not covered by other funding. Municipal match for both plans combined is expected to range between a minimum of \$1,000 to a maximum of \$5,500.

Invasive Species - Ms. Sharyn Walz reported that Steve Taylor attended an Invasive Species Workshop given by the Sierra Club featuring Eric Gehring as speaker. Fighting invasive species is urgent as our New Jersey is in third place for invasive species, behind only Florida and Hawaii. Our Invasive Species Subcommittee met, elected Steve Taylor Chairman, welcomed Kim Felong as a new member and went to work on holding an “Attack on Autumn Olive Day” in coordination with a branch pickup. This requires a lot of work: Council approval to cut down Autumn Olive on Borough-owned property in late fall/early winter, a Plan B to take care of private properties in the fall if Council approval cannot be expedited and address public property in March, recruit volunteers, need for volunteer forms and waivers, assist volunteers to ID and remove Autumn Olive on their own properties, plan a second day in early March 2016, etc. Next steps recommended by the ERI Report include finding “clean” areas and moving outward, training needed so subcommittee suggests that Ms. Walz attend a training program through Rutgers University, cost \$250. Ms. Walz attended a workshop held by the Hanson Park Conservancy and an Invasive Species Conference will be held in April, 2016.

Resolution was made by Ms. Sharyn Walz and seconded by Mr. Michael Ticktin that the Roosevelt Borough Council approve an “Attack on Autumn Olive Day” so that the Committee will be allowed to cut down invasive species on Borough property. Chair Grunwald had some concerns that we get liability sign offs via a Borough Release Form. There was some concern how to advertise this “Day” starting with our speaker placed on the Council Agenda to explain the urgent need for dealing with invasive species. These points considered, this Resolution was approved by the Commission. Mr. Ticktin will be at the Council Meeting. Note also that Invasive Species Committee Chairperson Steve Taylor wrote an article for the Borough Bulletin last month.

Stream Restoration - Committee members Mr. Michael Ticktin and Ms. Mary Tulloss were present this evening. Mr. Ticktin mentioned that the County Engineers Office came and looked at the culvert as they have jurisdiction and found the problem is on both sides of the culvert and

further down stream. Ms. Tulloss has a list of organizations that can help us. She has also tried to contact Monmouth County, left messages and also e-mailed photos, but no response. She called Stony Brook-Millstone Water Shed Association, left messages but no response yet. She may just pay them a visit. In the recommendations from Dr. Hartman, she mentioned that the SBMWS Association has classes in stream monitoring. Ms. Tulloss has found an Ecology club at the high school and has heard that The Peddie School has an Ecology group; we might get some volunteers. She will follow up on leads. Chairperson Grunwald added that people need to be trained to monitor, equipment and supplies are needed, and professional labs that test the samples are expensive. We need to identify lab costs for our budget.

Storm Water System - Mr. Tim Hartley is working on trying to get a much needed updated map. No report yet.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On motion by Mr. Michael Ticktin and second by Ms. Ilana Janowitz, the minutes of October 21, 2015 were unanimously approved by this Commission.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chairperson Grunwald stated that Resolution 15-103 was discussed under the Report of the Council Representative on the first page of these minutes.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Mary Tulloss asked about the town wood pickup; Mr. Ticktin said that it is not scheduled yet, we are hoping to deal with the Autumn Olive problem at the same time. As usual the beavers are very active, but there is now the possibility of installing a beaver deceiver to prevent them from building a dam. This is being investigated. Trapping, removing, and relocating beavers is also still being done.

PUBLIC: No comments

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business, on motion by Ms. Stacey Bonna and second by Ms. Ilana Janovich, this meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Attest:

Ann M. Kassahun, Secretary