

## **West Cape May Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes May 2, 2018**

**Call to Order:** 6:40 PM

**Roll Call:** Hilary Pritchard (chair), Tom Bocket, Joe Grottola, Bob Hewitt, Chris Isenhardt, Trish Miller, Janet Payne, Louise Zemaitis, John Francis (Commissioner)

**Absent:** Susan Crossan

**Minutes:** A motion was made by Bob to accept April's minutes. Joe seconded.

**Treasurer's Report:** The balance of \$20,309.41. \$469.90 was spent for WCM Elementary School's greenhouse fan and thermostat.

Chris made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Bob seconded.

### **Planning Board**

Nothing new in past two meetings. Waiting to hear about a lot on Fourth Avenue where there is work being done to bring it into compliance.

Wayne Hoffman, chair of WCM Shade Tree Commission called. The owner of 606 Second Avenue has cut down all the trees on the property.

### **Old Business**

Farmer's Market - Chris will create a document for WCM EC members to sign up for representing the EC at the booth.

Hilary will look into purchasing beach clean-up bags to sell at cost at the booth. Tom made a motion, seconded by Bob, to spend up to \$1000 for bags and custom printing. Janet will work on a design.

The WCM Shade Tree Commission would like to revitalize the garden in Backyard Park. Hilary proposed that WCM EC offer \$150 to help. She will contact Mark Garland about the current status of the garden.

Third Avenue Open Space - The remaining Mugwort has been treated.

Trish will talk to Josh Nemeth about moving forward on plantings for this year. Hilary will talk to Brittany Dobrzynski. Design and planting needs to happen as soon as possible.

Green Team - Hilary will contact Peter Hardy from Cape May about bringing people over to the WCM Elementary Bike-a-thon to talk about bike safety and do bike checks.

Environmental Resource Inventory - Bob spoke with Debbie Kratzer twice. With her advise, he would like to come up with ten action items. Hilary talked about using the ERI to identify sensitive areas in need of concentration for preservation.

Cape May Connections - The Cape May Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee meeting with Melissa Miklus, a consultant from RK&K in Baltimore, was well attended and very informative.

Invasive Plant Program - Brittany Dobrzynski and Dustin Welch's non-native and invasive plant program at the Rea Farm was well received. There were 15 people in attendance.

Adult Evening Program - Trish Miller's Golden Eagle program had 25 people in attendance. Tom made a motion that the WCM EC give \$275 to Trish's non-profit organization, Conservation Science Global. Seconded by Chris.

Nature Center of Cape May - May 19th, Dirty Hands Garden Club: How to Attract Butterflies & Hummingbirds to Your Garden. Free admissions to this program are being co-sponsored with WCM Shade Tree Commission. Janet has sent out the PR.

## **New Business**

Borough Wide Yard Sale - May 12. Barbara Hoepp has put out the signs. Janet is doing the PR.

Borough Wide Bulk Pick Up - May 16

World Ocean's Day - Hilary will work with Janet to get a June 8th screening of "Plastic Ocean" from Surfrider's Foundation.

Janet brought materials from Ocean Friendly Restaurants from Surfriders. There are four criteria that a shop or restaurant must meet: no styrofoam, proper recycling practices, to-go utensils only on request, and no plastic

bags. There are minor criteria as well. She suggested that West Cape May adopt the program.

Hilary would like to invite David Carrick, WCM Water Supervisor, to a future meeting.

Sunset Boulevard Clean up - May 27th, 7:30 AM

Recycling - Commissioner Francis handed out literature about recycling batteries.

Future Program - Commissioner Francis talked about his friend, Sylvia Earle, a noted marine biologist. He would like to bring her to West Cape May for an event.

Chris made a motion to adjourn. Bob seconded. Adjournment - 8:27 PM

Minutes prepared by Louise Zemaitis

Next meeting will be Wednesday, June 6th, 6:30 PM