

West Cape May Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes April 4, 2018

Call to Order: 6:40 PM

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

Absent: Susan Crossan, Chris Isenhardt, Trish Miller

Minutes: A motion was made by Janet to accept February's minutes. Bob seconded.

Treasurer's Report: As of April 4, there is a balance of \$20,779.31. \$475 was spent for ANJEC membership, \$200 to Janet for PR, and \$95.43 for movie night refreshments. There was a donation of \$52 added from the January 12th movie night.

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

Planning Board

The Shade Tree Commission has revitalized the Landscape Ordinance. The Planning Board has been looking at approvals with trees in mind. West Cape May's Zoning Code enforcement officer, Justin Vitola (609-602-3861), has become more active.

Hilary asked Bob about water run off. Drainage systems are usually required. The new house that was built on Bayshore Road has no drainage system, as was agreed to.

Old Business:

Third Avenue Open Space - Louise met with Josh Nemeth, The Wildlife Gardner, to talk about the work that needs to be done. Josh will work with Brittany Dobrzynski on proposing a several step plan.

Green Team - Tom made a motion, Janet seconded, to commit up to \$500 for a fan and thermostat for WCM Elementary School's greenhouse.

Environmental Resource Inventory - Bob agreed to take the ERI draft and communicate with Debbie in order to bring it to a final, useful document.

Cape May Connections - The Cape May Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee is having a meeting on Wednesday, April 11th 3:00 to 5:00 PM at Cape May City Hall. Melissa Miklus, a consultant from RK&K in Baltimore has been invited to give advise.

New Business

Bob suggested that the EC sponsor an event with the school, having kids help with trash pick up.

Pond Creek Marsh Restoration - Mark Walters, from the NJDEP Office of Natural Resource Restoration, will be at the Cape May Point Commissions Planning Session (Cape May Point Firehouse) - Tuesday, April 10th at noon to give a presentation about the Higbee Beach Wildlife Management Area Restoration Project.

Spring Programs

Adult Evening Program - Trish Miller - **Golden Eagles: Ghosts of Eastern Forests**. Friday, April 13th at 7:00 PM with snacks. Joe will do sound and Janet will contact Chris about coordinating snacks.

Invasive Plant Program - Brittany Dobrzynski and Dustin Welch are doing a program "Identifying and Controlling Non-native Invasive Plants on April 28th, 10:00 at the Rea Farm.

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 will do the PR.

Bob made a motion to adjourn. Joe seconded. Adjournment - 8:20 PM

Minutes prepared by Louise Zemaitis

Next meeting will be Wednesday, May 2nd, 6:30 PM