

Borough of Haddon Heights
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
January 20, 2016 Meeting Minutes

In attendance: John Babcock (New Chairman), Marshall Hatfield, Dave Cox, Kevin Murphy, Bruce Koch, and Bill Rafter.

Excused: Steve Berryhill, Jackie Parisi

Absent: None

Guest: Mark Parker

There being enough Commissioners for a quorum.

Meeting convened at 7:03 PM with flag salute and reading of the Open Public Meetings Act

Initial housekeeping items:

- Bill Rafter was designated temporary Scribe for this meeting.
- Vince Stango (Alternate Commissioner) has resigned.
- Jackie Parisi continues as the Planning Board Liaison.
- Steve Berryhill continues as the Borough Council Liaison
- Kevin Murphy was nominated as Vice Chair by John, seconded by Marshall. Unanimously confirmed.
- The EC has a need to find an additional Alternative Commissioner.
- Commissioners not having yet done so should return signed Oath of Office forms.

December Minutes motion to approve by Bruce Koch, seconded Bill Rafter, all in favor.

Old Business:

ANJEC Recreation-Open Spaces-Natural Resources Map

There was a review of the **Haddon Heights map** in progress by Mark Parker, with considerable feedback. Mr. Parker will return at the next (February) meeting.

-the size of the final map is still TBD. For example, going to 24 inches considerably bumps up the price.

-Marshall will price the costs.

-funding is by Sustainable Haddon Heights with the addition of a \$1500 grant from ANJEC.

-the final product will be vetted thru Kathy Lange, Head of Parks & Recreation.

-the "Classic Towns" logo will not go on the map.

TCDI E. Atlantic RR Corridor Status

Findings must be completed by June 30th. Next meeting is in February.

The EC's **Annual Report to Town Council** should go to Council on January 21st.

EC's **Budget** to be followed up with Steve Berryhill. The only specific concern is the need to pay for conferences and certifications.

New Business

Environmental Resource Inventory (**ERI**). Kevin will inquire as to the cost of having the ERI outsourced, given the amount of preparatory work already accomplished. An ERI from scratch

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could easily cost \$10,000. At this point there is only the need to finish it off, with perhaps “borrowed” content from ERIs of other already-approved communities.

The HH Tree Inventory: John and Marshall need to block some time to input the tree data into spreadsheets. Additional tree data (from street inspections) could be obtained with bud-break this spring. John commented that we need to find additional volunteers for the inventory.

Grant Performance: if a community received a grant and followed with poor completion activity, that community will be on the “S-list” for two years. Obviously that is an undesirable outcome for all involved.

Further grants: EC needs to identify the grants that are available and what we need to do to get the applications completed. There are additional ANJEC grants available for various projects, but the applications are due April 1st.

Commissioner Comments:

- Comment (unattributed): the EC should include “health benefits” in all actions.
- Sustainable Jersey is offering 10 – 20 student volunteers on the following dates:
- Sat. April 9th, Weds. April 20th, Sat. April 23rd, and Sat. April 30th. Can we use them to further complete the iTree inventory? Application deadline is Feb. 15th.
- ANJEC Fundamentals for Effective Environmental Commissions is available on Sat. March 5th in West Deptford. Is anyone interested and available?

Motion to adjourn by Kevin Murphy, seconded by Bruce Koch. Meeting adjourned at 8:47 PM.

Submitted by Bill Rafter

Next HHEC Meeting: February 17, 2016 at 7 PM