

SLH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
June 6, 2016  
7:00 P.M.

- 1.) Call to Order, Flag Salute, and Open Public Meetings Notification  
Attendance: Sandy Denison, Robert Merriken, Kat Crippen, Nancy Maclearie, Gaylen Nolan, Peg Melchione
- 2.) Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting: May 2016  
Amendment: Nancy asked the minutes be amended to show she arrived 10 minutes late. Amendment made on motion by Robert Merriken, Seconded by Sandy Denison; all aye  
Minutes approved on motion by Nancy Maclearie, seconded by Robert Merriken, all aye
- 3.) Communications -- none
- 4.) Old Business
  - a.) Sustainable Jersey – Sandy reported on the proposed farmer's market; she did get a confirm from Allaire Farm that they would be there through August. She has farmers from Red Bank and Manasquan who plan a year in advance, so most people are booked for 2016. She has a honey vendor and also a bread vendor. Plan is for a Saturday/Sunday during the morning through August. We need to get a market agreement form and a market manager. We need a flyer or a press release; when we are ready to launch, Sandy will present to the Council.
  - b.) Parks Update – Community Garden  
Kat said she spoke to the folks at the Green Acres program and they confirmed that a community garden would be an allowable use at Fletcher. We would want to have a separate entity other than the Borough to manage it and give them a lease, similar to how Little League has use of the ballfield.

Councilman Art Herner who chairs Parks and Recreation presented: He noted that the Borough is finishing the fence along Fletcher/Nolan; there are bids on 6 space parking lot and they have feedback from county on sizing, tearing out old concrete and putting in pathway back to basketball courts, put in picnic bench and benches in the designated area near the proposed parking. On Allaire Road, they have installed approximately 70 total trees to replant grove, put 3 picnic tables there on grassed area to see how it looks and if they are used; could be moved if need be. In the Grove, a grassed area has been added where you throw can a Frisbee. There is some buffering done along the back.

Buffer on west side of Allaire Road was planted but was too thin so another row of Leylands will be added, 9 foot tall and 20 of them to bump up the buffer. Nancy asked if they were ordered and Art said he should have by now. Nancy said she would follow up. Peg asked about the location between fence and buffer; Art confirmed there was a drain pipe in there but it would not be impacted by the trees. The growth of the trees would prevent people from walking through from Crosby Avenue. Peg asked about the trees that were dying and the one that was completely dead; where they guaranteed? Art said we would deal with what we have there and we should have the responsibility to keep them watered. Peg asked about watering; Art said he could take the water from the hydrant on Crosby. Peg said the Borough workers had intermittently watered with a hose from the building near the Little League field.

Kat asked about the new well installation; Art said it was only designed to feed the Little League sprinklers and it wasn't big enough to pump as far as the Fletcher area. Also, we are not supposed to hook up a hose to a non-potable water source. A well would not save money for just using for the Little League field, 3 months of a year, and can't serve the Fletcher area. Art said we can run off the old Fletcher hookup to where the butterfly garden was proposed and install a faucet. Kat and Gaylen asked about the poison ivy and what was happening; one of the DPW workers is licensed and went out today to spray; will continue the maintenance for this. Peg asked for a recap on how to water the new trees behind her house and art said he would run a hose from the hydrant on Crosby; he didn't think the line from the bathroom had enough pressure to run out there.

Nancy asked about following up on the water; said we may need to show them what needs to be done; Art said some people don't seem to take it seriously that the trees must not be allowed to die. Peg said they had a water tank there to carry water. Peg asked about planting more trees in the grove between the new buffer and the Little League field; Art said we need to keep out the knotweed and the other underbrush.

Kat asked about breaking the ground for the butterfly garden and Art said we could find or rent the equipment and the DPW guys could break the ground. Kat asked about the back fence line being planted and peg agreed the local residents did want it buffered more heavily. Art said we could revisit this later in the fall. Kat noted there needed to be a "no dogs" sign along the side entrance of Fletcher and Art agreed.

- c.) Site Plan Review – The Commission members stepped down from the dais to review the site plans for the Tap House Restaurant at 810 Route 71. The business was requesting variances from the Board of Adjustment to be allowed to build an outdoor dining area along Route 71. Board members expressed concerns about stormwater run-off and the impact to the quality of life to the neighbors' environment, i.e., parking, noise, lighting. The BOA is scheduled to hear the application on June 30. Kat and Nancy will attend.
- d.) Natural Resources Inventory – Nancy checked with ANJEC for an outline and said it is much easier than we thought. We are able to get free mapping via the County GIS program as we are charter members. This will be a huge cost saving.
- e.) Open Space Inventory Update – Kat had provided some updates to Andy Ball at the Borough's legal counsel. She noted that the most complicated parcel was around Black Creek because there needed to be boundaries for both the public works yard and for the sewerage station at the end of 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

5.) Voice of the Public

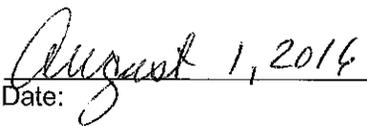
John Tangeman, 564 Atlantic Avenue, noted that Mr. Herner mentioned that the Grove had had some replanting. The Grove was replanted in a circle, leaving an empty middle. He pointed out that the intent was to restore and the empty middle is not restoring. Robert indicated there was no interest in additional sports fields. All agreed that they supported restoration of the Grove. If it was retreeed, it was less temptation down the road to put sports fields there. Nancy said she had brought this up at the Council meeting saying that the reforestration plan had resulted in additional trees cut down.

Voice of the Public was closed on a motion by Robert Merriken, seconded by Gaylen Nolan, all aye.

6.) Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM on a motion by Robert Merriken, seconded by Nancy Maclearie, all aye

  
Kathleen Crippen, Chair

  
Date: