

WTEAC Minutes January 16, 2020

Meeting opened under the Sunshine Law at 7:06 PM.

Present: Wilma Morrissey, Bob Kilmurray, Joe Balesterri and Hance Sitkus. Subsequently Committee Tim Farrell, Liaison, stopped in.

Absent: Greg Wolek, John Ozell, Scott Burke & Ellen Smith.

Committee Farrell discussed the Solar Farm on Rt. 71 in the West Belmar Gateway Redevelopment Area. The possibility of having Mayor Newberry coming to our next meeting was discussed by Wilma Morrissey and Mr. Farrell who will follow-up to check on Mayor Newberry's availability.

There was a brief discussion on the amount of members necessary for a quorum. Currently with eight members on the Environmental Advisory Committee a quorum would be four members according to Robert's Rules.

The December 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes were reviewed and motion was made by Bob Kilmurray and seconded by Wilma Morrissey to accept the minutes.

Wilma Morrissey explained the importance of soliciting potential candidates earlier in the year for the 2020 Green Business Recognition Program. Bob Kilmurray discussed the 2019 Green Business Recognition Awardees and how both Barlow Flower Farm and InfoAge Science & History Museums provided very detailed reports on their respective efforts in positively impacting the environment within Wall Twp.

Wilma Morrissey discussed the draft 9-11 Memorial Interpretive Sign Grant from Sustainable New Jersey that is due February 14, 2020. Wilma will include information from the rain garden to enhance the application.

Wilma updated the status of the Poetry, Poster and Essay Contests. All four of the Grammar School Principals have been notified concerning Poetry/Poster Contest. The High School Principal has been notified concerning the Essay Contest with Josh Tennant.

Bob Fischer has retired effective 12/31/19 but would continue to make the presentation to the Wall Intermediate School concerning the Bayshore Regional Sewerage Authority Essay Contest to the eighth grade students. In the past, only two members from the Environmental Committee attended due to limited space, but space has increased and Wilma encouraged more members to attend.

Wilma Morrissey discussed having the "Environmentally Yours" Newsletter emailed to Wall Twp. residents through email. Wilma will write the introduction and send to Wall Twp. Joe Balesterri recommended using the "Wall Living" Magazine that is sent to all Wall Twp. residents on a monthly basis. Hance Sitkus stated that he has sent in articles to "Wall Living" concerning Allaire Village. The documents are due the 10th of every month. Hance will forward the contact information for Editor Ed Parise. Wilma will send the first article as an introduction as to what the Environmental Advisory Committee does.

Wilma indicated that the ANJEC dues have been paid and copies of the Meeting dates throughout the year were handed out. The shirt order should be coming in shortly from the Clean Communities monies.

Hance Sitkus explained that there appears to be a bug infestation, perhaps the "kissing Bug" at the Allenwood Garden. There are no chemicals used at the garden, and we will have to research further.

Wilma Morrissey discussed the 2020 Goals of the Environmental Advisory Committee and after reviewing the goals there were no additions at this time.

We discussed the use of Field Trips for the Environmental Advisory Committee in the future. Allaire Community Farm may be a possibility.

The Photo Gallery has been updated and members need to review their contact information.

All members present supported the Solar Farm on Rt. 71 but would like to see the fencing, leasing agreement, parking and landscaping.

Next we discussed the articles attached to the handout package.

The “Our Environmental: Ways to Help Save Our Planet” by Ingrid Justick was informative with discussion on hybrid cars.

The next article addressed the “Lack of Action Single-Use Plastic Bags”. The consensus among the members were to support the proposed legislation. Unfortunately, bills sometimes start adding amendments that make passage more difficult.

The “As Cyberthreats Grow, Cybersecurity Should be Centralized” had impact on both Wilma Morrissey and Hance Sitkus. Wilma and Hance had both been hacked and the members present support a more centralized approach to cyber security.

“Be a Good Battery Steward, Don’t Charge Your Phone in Bed” discussed the fire hazards from lithium-ion batteries, which the members present felt has been addressed by the industry.

The article, “No Green Initiatives from the ‘Greenest’ Governor Other than Pledge to Deal with the Lead Issue” discussed the \$500 million dollar bond to replace water service lines that are contaminated with lead. Governor Murphy also mentioned the larger issue of lead paint.

The last article “Amid Jitters over NJ Solar Program, State Looks for Best Way to Maintain It” addressed the continued funding for legacy solar projects that fall so low that the systems no longer will recover their initial investments.

Wilma emphasized the importance of completing the Sustainable New Jersey Re-Certification with deadline of May, 2020.

The Allaire Dam should be re-visited with the Monmouth County to check on status.

Dates to Remember: No Attachment

Handouts Provided:

- Agenda, Minutes, Site Plans, 2020 Meeting Dates, various article and Notifications.

Bob Kilmurray made a motion to adjourn and the motion was seconded by Joe Balesterri.

Adjourned: 9:20PM

Submitted: Bob Kilmurray