

FAIR HAVEN ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES for Wed 9-25-2019 at 7:30 pm meeting at Borough Hall-

1. Call to Order 7:47pm
2. Sunshine Law Notice – Read by Brian.
3. Roll Call: Brian Rice, Laline Neff, Jessie Murray; Patrick Keeler; Dennis Sullivan; Jonathan Peters
4. Pledge of allegiance.
5. Approval of earlier minutes: May and July minutes. Motion to approve: Pat Second: Laline all in favor
6. Current Business

A. Sustainable Jersey Project / Green Team (Laline Neff):

Members: Laline, Stephanie, Kelly Flannigan, Caroline Ferguson, Liz DeBeer

Green team Actions:

- Reusable bags – art contest in school for design for 2 different bags (1 per school) – how to get funded?
- Reusable Bottles to sell – coming up with logo. In process of contacting rec sports, would like a logo that incorporates all activities.
- Next year – trying to change food and beverage choices at concession stand to make healthier. Potential action for healthy action in schools.
- Kids at Knollwood have same ideas – they want to do a reusable bag/art contest. Several kids doing different environmental projects such as eliminate plastic cups and replace with paper or compostable. Emma (Knollwood student) nominated as president of student council – working at zero waste in school, competition in classes for least amount of waste.
 - Sustainable NJ for Schools – schools can apply, create own green team (staff, leadership, students, parents), own actions to take and apply for own certification – district level or school level. School points can also count toward town points for Sustainable NJ for the town. New initiative, but would be great to promote schools. Would have to go through superintendent and BOE. Action Item – Laline to follow up with schools
- Meeting schedules – not formally scheduled, typically ad hoc meetings. How to get involved? Brain said team can use Bicentennial Hall for meetings.
- FH Recycling Day like Little silver – clothing, electronics, etc. KoC potential location (LS uses women's club). Earth Day project, or separate project? Is there a top list of items that are recycled? We could borrow from LS, should meet with their chair and find out how they do it, contacts (use same contacts). Staffed by volunteers. Offset from LS for dates. Dennis and Brian interested. Need to provide outline of what to do and responsibility – who should be involved. Action Item: Laline to contact chair.
- Green team should be a source with the EC members for volunteers.
- Fix name of Green Team, come up with mission statement, and make more formal so anyone can be involved. Action Item: Laline to pull together names of Green Team and set monthly dates / location. Subset of EC for continuity.

B. Navesink River Pollution update (Brian Rice).

- Shellfish waters - restricted use west of the Oceanic Bridge. Currently the River has passed in almost 90% percentile, doing much better. Domestic animals are biggest issues along with horses in Middletown, Colts Neck, and Tinton Falls.
- NRMC – talk to different towns and address issues. Fecal coliform around 100 ppm in the river which is safe for swimming. 14 ppm is safe for shellfish harvest. NRMC agreed we are good with 100ppm. East of the bridge is safe for shellfishing west of bridge safe for swimming but not eating shellfish. We don't have economic viability west of the bridge.
- Monmouth park takes care of horse waste monitored by Oceanport Watch and county.
- Dog Waste – big problem in town. Need to address, if you see anyone take a photo and make a call to Police. Same offenders in FH Fields, dogs not on leash. Dog waste is flush or toss only. Message – everything goes to river. Enforcement still not know – its illegal and needs to be enforced.
 - Dog Park - Does FH have room for one? Would be good for educational outreach. Would need to go to Natural Area in FH / speak to council. Oceanport has dog park.
- Shrewsbury River – we do not have data from NJDEP bc not shellfish waters.

C. GIS System for FH (Greg Wright) Options to complete software fixes.

- No updates, Greg not at meeting. Jessie motions to take off agenda. Laline seconds, all in favor.

D. Knollwood Rain Gardens Completion and SJ Grant Closing. COMPLETE

F. Red Bank request for joint Bike Sharing program, meeting not rescheduled. (RWW)

- not discussed.

G. Watering Station Grant for FH Fields Rec Center - INSTALLED. Complete.

Council Update (Jonathan Peters):

- Passed plastic ordinance.
- Installed waster station at FH fields.
- DeNormandie Park – some renovation - high weight benches installed (bc zone B flood hazard area).
 - Shoreline natural barrier to prevent erosion – waiting for permitting / engineering drawings.
- Boat ramps at end of Hance, FH Roads going forward.
- Informative stickers for trash/recycle passed around – what we pick up/recycle example provided.
 - Town Recycling: Can we propose same recycling company as Rumson? – they also take 5s, we only take 1 and 2s with bottle neck format. Rumson you would have to take on your own instead of getting picked up. Perhaps have a drop off for 5s? Curbside maximizes but people are putting in the wrong items. Town to get stickers. Goal is to have most recycled and appropriate for recycling. Majority of recycling likely gets kicked out – will not be sorted so will go to the dump. Next level – what options are there to look out for best net yield recycled.

- Lots of hydraulic fluid after pickups which in turn are going in river. Action Item: Laline to follow up with Teresa about changing recycling company.

Ponds –

McCarter's – Brian and council members to come up with budget for next year to do something – preliminary idea is hydroraking McCarter's. Pontoon with cultivator, would take out majority of organic material (i.e., leaves, grass). Proposed to dump organics in FH fields to dry and compost. Pond was tested and no heavy metals, no toxic algae. Given how shallow pond it, will never be pristine. Pond was never a deep pond (made for ice). Dredging not feasible from preliminary economic point of view. Preliminary ideas are to hydrorake to bring depth down then take out bubblers and replace with 2 aeration fountains like Rumson has. Goal is so pond can be enjoyed/used for fishing most of the season. Peters not a fan of chemicals although FHEC advocated for it previously and was most inexpensive alternative that is clearly not working. Potential to hydrorake every 4 years to make better conditions. Schwenker's – spillway – 6ft to water. High rain event and foot below. Plank to raise water? Spillway owned and maintained by county. Algae wont grown if make pond deeper, Slow the water. Quick fix/reversable. Action item – Jon to speak to Teresa / speak to county? County would have to be agreeable to add some planks 1 at a time (10 inches at a time) to see how it goes/how affects flow. Shippees – previously adjustable spillway. But for slat.

New Items:

Laline asked if worth Interest in town to go solar for roofs. General comments from J. Peters: Not economical, no credits anymore, not easy since buildings older. Potential option when newer buildings go up.

Adjournment. 9pm. Next Meeting 7:30 pm, Oct. 25, 2019