

## FAIR HAVEN ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES for Wed 9-26-2018 at 7:30 pm meeting at Borough Hall-

1. Call to Order: 740pm
2. Sunshine Law Notice
3. Roll Call: Brian Rice, Patrick Mullen, Greg Wright, Jessie Murray; Patrick Keeler; Gary Patterson; Dennis Sullivan, Johnathan Peters
4. Approval of May and June meeting minutes
5. Current Business
  - A. **Sustainable Jersey Project (Laline Neff):** 2018 submission final draft – no update
  - B. **Navesink River Pollution Update (Brian Rice):** NRMCM took summer off – reconvened in September (meetings now 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of month). New NJDEP Reports from sampling: overall improvements and results are getting closer to geographic mean (14ppm). Still some spikes, FH in good shape, some issues due to deferred maintenance in still in Red Bank and Middletown, and Rumson (corner of Rumson Rd and FH Rd). Bill Heddendorf of NJDEP inspected issue at McLees. In general, old underground clay pipes decaying. Blockages /cracks on the top of the pipes. No blame game – find it fix it. River improving.
  - C. **GIS System for FH (Greg Wright):** Options to complete software fixes – little progress since Greg away. Tasks: Map natural area for invasive species (Natural Areas Committee [NAC]) and map trees on the streets (Shade Tree Commission). Cheapest way would be to use cell phone app. Purchase Garmin 76 GPS? Give tablets to Natural Areas Committee (NAC) w/ GPS. Can use QGIS. NAC would have to take care of the data. Need to have meeting w/ NAC to discuss. Next step: purchase Garmin, give w/ tablet, collect data, then get data back to process. Develop subcommittee for GIS with members of FHEC and NAC?
  - D. **Knollwood Rain Gardens Construction Schedules Update (Brian Rice):** Do while school in session. Met w/ Sean McNeil (superintendent). Share service w/ Rumson. Get Rutgers to reflag proposed raingarden area. Call 811 (NJ One Call) to mark-out utilities before digging. We have grant money. Ryders will donate material. Need plants – need to call up nursery (Pinelands). Rice Associates also donating equipment.
  - E. **Boro Hall Rain Barrell Status, publicity needed (Pat Mullen) –** Some publicity in spring to get points for Sustainable NJ. Did demo in spring. Pat was main contact for any questions. Potential spring 2019 event. Rumson Eco Fest – lots of interest and educational. Will likely do again w/ Rumson.
  - F. **Stormwater –** Brian discussed w/ zoning. Need language to put into FH Master Plan for variance/ordinance for stormwater management on each property. Currently no ordinance for town. Should be encouraged in building process. Rain gardens! Cisterns sometimes required. Acme put in 2 cisterns. River Rd – was supposed to be cistern,

but backed out after costs. Without ordinance, nothing to fall back on especially when addressing sheet flow. Roof water fine, parking lots are not clean. Also, a volume issue. 27% 18.2mg water per ½ inch rain. Pervious pavement is more helpful but shorter lifespan and more expensive. Viable for new construction but not worth it financially to redo roads currently paved with it. Town not enforcing rules like picking up dog waste. Should ask the chief of police – express concern to relay to officers to give summons. Tie in w/ dog licenses.

- G. **No-Smoking in Parks** – Reporting affirmative vote in Council in June to approve no-smoking in parks. Has passed. Need signs?
- H. **Joint Bike Sharing Program** – Red Bank request for joint Bike Sharing program. FHEC open to it. No cost program. RB will be the lead and FH take 4-5 stations. Waiting for RB to move forward. Would work best to add Sea Bright. Bike lifespan 18-24 months if heavily used. Only issues if vandalism or not in correct places. Vender should be liable if program doesn't work. Potential stations on E River Rd by Lupo and Acme.

6. New Business:

- A. **Schwenker's Pond**. Wetland or waterway? Request for draft recommendation for Council, with basis for recommendation – wetland. Let it happen or help? Need to help it along systematically, would involve planting plan. Remove invasive species. Can't dredge. Remove plants – hire contractor. It is currently classified as a class 1 pond, upstream portion is wetland. Rutgers was going to do water sample – Jon Peters to get results. Add rip rap, add native species, remove invasive. DEP not interested in restoring watercourses but to more natural state – more meandering. Is it worth it? Does it improve water quality? (Dennis and Gary to spearhead). If not a lot of money, potential for Sustainable NJ grant?
- B. **McCarter Pond** – Too shallow – need to hydro rake. Council seeking more advice? Budgetary issue – chemicals not working. Low O2 problem. Ask Rutgers – Rumson had same issue. More aeration – fountains? How much we going to put into it. Aesthetics and fishing/recreation – problem. Not working – ponds not natural – what is maintenance plan for non-natural pond. Effluent running off is fine. Hydrorake w/ better fountain/better aeration. Assessed by someone not looking to sell something. Problem with flow and effluent from street w/ sand. Need to look at but don't want to spend a lot of money.
- C. **Hance and Grange** – end of the road on the water. Moving forward getting funding for access.
- D. **DeNormandie Park** – At the end of DeNormandie moving forward. Goal to be open and clean, Littoral Society to restore bank and create living shoreline. Waiting to get approvals. Currently Eroding. Permitting required for upland and waterfront pieces, also in V zone flood hazard area. Invasive plant maintenance. Can't see water from the park. Maintenance; needs to be cleaned up. Garbage trucks use for turnaround. Grass never planted. What's the right solution? Parking? Send small trucks down instead of large? Pot a post/chain if not designated parking? Discuss w/ Police chief.

- E. **Open Space** – Police station never part of ROSSI. Whole property a single title w/ open space and need to break off portion for open space, should have never been on. Very few properties not on the ROSSI for open space. Looking to maintain open space where exists.
- 8. Adjournment. 840pm. Next Meeting 7:30 pm, Oct. 24, 2018.