

FAIR HAVEN ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION – MINUTES for 9-27-2017

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 pm at Borough Hall. The Sunshine Law was cited. Present were: Brian Rice, Patrick Mullen, Greg Wright, Patrick Keeler, Gary Patterson, and Jessie Murray. Councilman Jonathan Peters also in attendance.

- 1) July 26, 2017 meeting minutes were approved.
- 2) **Sustainable New Jersey Project / Environmental Resource Inventory** (Jessie) – Documentation of Actions for bronze status were submitted in September. All actions required to be finalized by November. Major piece is finalizing the ERI. Discussed member assignments to complete ERI and what we as EC consider to be town's most critical Environmental Issues. Consensus on stormwater. Draft to be finalized and submitted for review and approval by the Planning Board. Next Planning Board Meeting October 11th. After Planning Board approval, Council required to formally adopt ERI as attachment to town Master Plan. Discussed adopting ERI at October 26th meeting at Knollwood School.
- 3) **Navesink River Pollution Update** (Brian) – Some source locations appear to be getting better. Highest concentrations are due to wildlife (i.e. deer population). Educational flyers to be distributed via FH Focus for people with dogs to adhere to town ordinance and pick-up waste and dispose of properly (not into storm drains). Discussed potentially setting up more dog waste disposal stations in town. EC to propose locations to Council.

Discussed implementing stormwater projects from Rutgers Report including planting rain gardens at Knollwood school. Also discussed controlling sheet flow by creating buffers adjacent to impervious surfaces (e.g. planted buffers along Acme parking lot) or major collection points (i.e. streets that flow towards Navesink River). Also discussed deer problem in town – is there a way to control? If can reduce the overall load of flowing water during rain events and reduce waste from deer, can help river.
- 4) **GIS System** (Greg) – Basemaps still need to be installed onto tablets. Expect to have maps loaded and to give a tablet to Fair Haven Fields Natural Area contact within the next month. Discussed getting someone to assist with tablets that has software experience (potentially Chris Aviles).
- 5) **Other Items: Schwenkers Pond** – What to do, keep as pond or let go to wetlands? If drain pond to make a large wetland/raingarden could benefit stormwater from surrounding area. EC is to review report by Aquatic Analysts on Schwenkers Pond and discuss next meeting.
- 6) **Next Meeting** – October 25, 2017 at 7:30 pm in the Borough Hall Council meeting room.
- 7) **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessie Murray, recording secretary