

MINUTES
POINT PLEASANT ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
April 20, 2009

1. CALL TO ORDER

Regular meeting of the Point Pleasant Borough Environmental Commission was called to order by Chairman, Sheryl Burke who led us in the salute to the flag at 7:00 P.M.

2. This regular meeting of the Env. Comm. was called to order by the Chairman, and is held under the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act; please be advised that adequate notice of this meeting was provided to the public by posting of this notice in the Borough Hall and communicated to two newspapers.

3. ROLL CALL: Present: Mrs. Milewski, Mr. Romanowski, Mr. Digney, Mr. Parks, Mr. Constantino and Mrs. Burke Absent: Mr. Kosinski, Mr. Robertson, Mr. Kern

4. Approval of Minutes: Minutes March 16, 2009 - Motion to approve minutes as written by Mr. Digney, seconded by Mr. Romanowski. All in favor.

5. COMMUNICATIONS:

1, Thank you Tyler Rotunno – Chairman Burke thanked Tyler Rotunno for doing a wonderful job in restoring the Dorsett Dock Wharf. He did a beautiful job. She noted that she and her husband had been going down there for years and the property was in disarray. The garbage thrown all around the bulkhead broken up. Tyler did a wonderful job and hopefully it will be maintained for many years to come and his children can enjoy it. Mr. Constantino wanted to second that. Mr. Constantino stated he went down at a perfect time when they needed some holes dug and this is another example of what we have had over the last couple of years without Eagle Scout projects. A job well done.

2. N J Tree Foundation Support of N J Legislative Bills – Mr. Constantino stated we should investigate the bill and see if we want to send it to Mayor and Council. Mr. Digney stated he looked it up on the computer, it is really for the contractors they should be licensed. It doesn't affect public employees they are exempt. They have to have 2 or 4 years of college and years of experience. They would then have to take continuing education courses. It would be tree companies. Mr. Digney stated it has been passed in the Assembly and is pending in the Senate. Mr. Constantino moved that a letter be written to the Mayor and Council in support of the proposed bill, seconded by Mr. Digney. All in favor.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Budget – Mr. Kern absent: Mrs. Burke reported that we collected \$5,387.92, encumbered \$1,762.50 (we have a few more things to add to that but not much) balance available \$3,625.42. We have a few bills and \$1,000.00 scholarship and we will have some left over for next year. All the activities, expenses and scholarship were donations

from exhibitors and sponsors. We did really well even with the tough economy. Chris really pushed and did a great job. We had 55 booths. Not all paying booths a lot of them are non-profit organizations. We had about 12 sponsors. We had a lot of great volunteers.

2. Planning Board – Mr. Kosinski – Absent.

3. Beautification – Mrs. Milewski – Reported she gave out a list of our dead-end streets to Mr. Hoffmaster and he was going to get some help in cleaning up those dead ends.

Mrs. Burke stated the DPW did a wonderful job helping us at Earth Day and she knew how busy they are, but the park needs some cleaning up. They do need some help. Mr. Romanowski stated maybe he could get the Environmental Club at High School to help clean up the park. Next weekend is the Beach cleanup and there are a couple scheduled for May.

Jon Ciser and Chris went out and looked at a couple of sites for cleanups. They are looking at the area between Arnold Yacht Basin and Hidden Harbor Condo's there is a marsh in there. We need to contact the owners for permission to gain access. Arnold Yacht Basin owns the marsh. Plan B maybe going back to the eastern portion of Slade Dale not disturbing the osprey area. The portion where the Sea Pointe Condos are. Clean up scheduled for May 23rd and 30th. He contacted the schools for help.

4. Education – Mr. Romanowski and Mr. Kern. Mr. Romanowski stated we did the education module which went over very well at both Ocean Rd and Nellie Bennett Schools. The kids are using their lunch boxes, they are all over the place.

The Environmental Club was at Earth Day helping. They did well with their contest. They are working on getting education out to the school kids reminding them to recycle in school. They had great handout they were giving out.

5. Garden Club – Mr. Digney stated this week they had Willie De Camp speak at the meeting about nitrogen in the Barnegat Bay. It was well received but not a large turnout. Next meeting the Herbertsville Honey – Meeting second Tues. of the month. Also some of the barrels were planted this week. They are going to reduce the number of barrels because they are too hard to care for and some are broken. He stated that Harvest Reward donated a lot of the plantings for the barrels, so we are going to acknowledge him in some way for all his generosity to the Garden Club.

6. Green Team/Chamber of Commerce – Mr. Constantino they already talked about the cleanups. He requested a memo be sent to the Mayor and Council making sure they have recycling cans out for the street fair. They only had garbage cans last year and there were a lot of water bottles in the garbage. Mrs. Burke stated letter should be sent to DPW.

Mr. Burke had some suggestions for Earth Day next year:

1. We need more volunteers to clean up after Earth Day. This morning I was at the park cleaning up there was lots of garbage around, I filled 2 bags. We have to concentrate on cleaning up afterward and set the example for others using the park. We should utilize the high school students for cleanup afterwards. There are so many cigarette butts in the mulch by the playground It is amazing we don't have a fire. That should be concentrated on and cleaned up.

In conjunction with the Crime Watch, Mr. Burke, stated that he is getting together a group to do away with graffiti and the stickers that was plastered all over signs everywhere. We are going after the people distributing the stickers. Maybe Mr. Nelson, Liaison to the Env. Club could get the kids to help with that also.

He spoke about the system we used this year for drop off and the closing off of Beach Blvd to parking. We were able to get the trailers and all in with no trouble. We should follow that again next year. The rear entrance at the wetland side was helpful. We also made sure the exhibitors didn't leave their cars parked in the parking lot of the park that helped.

We moved the sound system to the upper portion of the stage avoiding wires stretched across the field for people to trip over.

Soap and garbage cans in the bathrooms. We were serving food important there be soap whenever there is an activity.

We have to man the back gate there was a car that came in and went around the field. Set up time someone has to be there, Explorers were very good. Mr. Constantino suggested next year we give those vendors that have to use that back gate a sticker identifying them. We could give the Explorers a list and they would have to be checked off. We should assign gates they can use.

Mr. Burke, stated again we had some electrical problems. On the application next year we should highlight if they need electric they have to let us know in advance. Four or Five people didn't tell us and we had a problem.

We should solicit more volunteers. And the Borough tables are just the worst. Maybe if we have funds left in our budget we could buy some tables for DPW and it will benefit everyone.

Mrs. Milewski suggested that a large receptacle be put at the entrance of the park for smokers to extinguish their cigarettes before entering the park. There is nothing there so they throw them on the ground.

Mr. Romanowski stated if anyone is available for the Beach Cleanup next week they are looking for volunteers a lot of the kids are in the band and they will be in Boston next week. Maxson Beach 9:00 AM.

Mr. Parks stated that putting sound board on the stage is the worst place. When you are playing you can't hear anything. It should be in the front of the stage right in front of where our tent was.

7. Public Relations – Mr. Constantino reported he sent a lot of letters out and it seemed to work. Made sure it was recyclable material. We had good press in the Asbury Park Press and the Star. A couple of radio stations. WOBN, The Rat, WJRZ. He will try to get something in the press by Wed. about the event.

8. Earth Day – Entire Commission and Liaison – Was a great success. We are all beat. Some started at 6:00 in morning. She thanked everyone for all their help. She was impressed with the Recycling Club of the High School. She requested we sent them a letter of thanks for all their help and for the program. Thank you also to DPW. James Teague and Mike Kralovich. Also one to St. Peters. We also made up letters of Appreciation for the winners of the contest at Nellie Bennett for making something out of a recyclable material. Also a letter to Nellie Bennett for sponsoring the contest.

Mrs. Milewski suggested we make up a pamphlet telling more about what and how they can recycle in Pt. Pleasant. We had a lot of questions about that. Mr. Walker had everything at his booth. There is lot on the web site, also the county web site and the calendar. Mrs. Burke suggested we put a link to their web site.

9. Award and Commendations – Mr. Kosinski absent.

10. Open Space Committee – Ellie Milewski stated they talked about the cemetery at the last meeting. Mr. Constantino stated they had a good clean up a couple of weeks ago and they are getting ready to put the fence up. Mrs. Milewski stated one of the prisoners fell into one of the graves up to his waist. She stated they have great pictures of the log cabin going up. They are working on that it will be very nice when it is finished. They are getting ready to move the logs over. They have Architectural drawings. They are taking a partition wall down, putting in a foundation and electric and heat and air conditioning. They are looking into bathroom facilities, also a new roof. They have about 50 volunteers. Mrs. Burke stated the park does look very nice.

Mr. Constantino stated they also discussed the canal walk and the triangle on Canal St. They discussed the disrepair and dangerous situations some of the bulkhead is in. It is starting to undermine behind the bulkhead. The Committee is looking to make a starting point. We have limited amount of funding. It may come down to us having to do a lot of the work. There are a lot of infrastructure repairs that need to be done there.

They also spoke about Ariba Oil, they are slowly cleaning it. There are some test

wells.

Mr. Romanowski reported that the Mosquito Comm. took out over 200 tires from the Kennell property there are over 200 left. They took out the ones that would act as mosquito habitats. They took out tires that were buried. They did what they could. Apparently it was going to be one of the those concrete reefs when they filled the tires with concrete and sink them for the fish, but they gave it up as not being environmentally sound. Recycling became more lucrative for tires.

11. Eagle Scout Liaison – Mike Kern, absent - Mr. Constantino stated they heard from Mrs. Pace. The Eagle Scout extension again is a dead issue on his pier project. We will have to move forward and fix up the spot whether his gets involved or not. That will have to be done before they open the park. The railing, the fishing pole holders. We should take the sign boards down before they are damaged anymore. Mr. Burke stated we could just take the tops off, have the signs redone and laminated. He has looked at it and has a general plan.

12. Climate Action – Mr. Digney stated that this Sat. the 25th the Book recycling at the library in the back. Bring all books to the library. 12 to 4. We are talking about an Energy Audit and Dave Blazack is supposed to appear before the Council, next meeting in May. He wants to volunteer, he and a couple of guys from Lakehurst Naval Station they want to do an audit. Lois Jacobson is meeting with someone at the school, either the Env. Club or Guidance Counsel. Trying to get them to join our meetings.

13. Natural Resource Inventory – Brian Parks stated nothing has changed since last meeting. The next phase of the process, now that the two inventories have been combined, they should be reviewed by the Commission and accepted as the Official Natural Resource Inventory.

Mr. Parks stated what he did is he took the maps that were inserted into the one on the Point Borough site and combined that with changes I gave Dave on our site. I combined them into one that is currently on our site. It now has the efforts of both combined into one that should be called official Natural Resource Inventory. The only thing that was changed in the one that we were given the disc for was the maps and there were a couple of minor technical changes. By combining what they did and what we did it is essentially a new document so I credit them with providing the mapping and us with providing pictures of locations, water access, recreation properties and that is all sited as having been changed since whatever the original date was.

In order to cast aside any doubt of which is official we should adopt either one of the other and I would recommend the one that has been combined. According to the Land Use Law we are responsible for maintaining the Natural Resource Inventory and then providing it to the Council. We create and adopt the Natural Resource Inventory and provide it to the Council and Planning Board.

Mr. Constantino stated they had to adopt the Open Space Plan.

Mrs. Burke suggested everyone take a look at for the next meeting and be ready for vote on it and then send it to the Council and Planning Board after adoption.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Recycling – We improved the Recycling effort campaign. We went all out with the 3 R's. I think we did a good job on that.
2. . Forms for suggested greening and shade tree ord. – we will have to start taking a good look at that.
3. Adopt a Spot – Michael Kern is looking into that he is absent
4. Manasquan River location of the sign. Mr. Kosinski is not here we are going to have to take that over to locate the sign. Mr. Constantino sent information ahead but Mr.Kosinski was going to follow up on it.
5. We talked about the repair of the project at the River Pier.

Mr. Constantino stated we should bring back the public access problem at Bay Pointe Harbor. We have to have the public access sign reinstalled along the walkway that is what is in the deed. They keep removing it. We should write a letter to DPW asking them to reinstall the public access sign. If they don't have the sign he will get one from his office. It was up by the railing and it down again.

Mrs. Milewski stated the same thing with the Riverfront Park they have it blocked off. We are supposed to have access all around the front of the condos. They have no trespassing signs along there. It is not only because of the construction because the condo owners have access. Our fence should be down soon, it should be ready for fishing. We are supposed to go right from the new park down the steps around to in front of the condos. We will put it on Old business to keep an eye on it when the construction is completed.

Mrs. Block was requested to write a letter to DPW to reinstall the public access sign at Bay Point Harbor.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

9. APPLICATIONS:

Mr. Constantino stated they all looked OK most of them re-sales and looking to legalize things that were already built. In some cases they are improving the impact by building narrower docks.

10. VOUCHERS:

Mrs. Burke stated she will have some bills that she will bring in for payment to Mrs.

Block.

Councilman Chris Leitner was recognized. On recycling – He stated the Commission was doing a great job. He wanted to ask for the Commission’s recommendation on something he has seen in other towns, composting. Brielle raised enough money to give a compost bin to residents. It is a great program and great way to recycle. If done properly it can take 40% of waste out of the garbage which will reduce our carting fees and tipping fees. You were talking about the nitrogen in Barnegat Bay; this can be used as phenomenal fertilizer.

Also if you guys could make recommendations to council on fertilizer. There is anything we can do ordinance wise on using organic fertilizer properly. Didn’t know if passing an ordinance that you can only use certain fertilizers would work at all but I believe that the Ocean County Treatment center provides Ocean gro. Is there anything we can do to maximize the use of that in Town?

Mrs. Burke stated they will give that to us for free, the County. We can get it for the town for free they will come in and give us all we want.

Mr. Constantino stated the county is looking to pass an ord. for use around waterways.

Mr. Leitner stated maybe we could do that if you guys could help us with that. Also we want to look at a windmill ordinance; we would like your recommendations on the environmental aspects of it. I was hearing some talk in other towns of the town being a conduit to power companies and homeowners to lease their roof space a zero cost to the homeowners. He was sure there were a tremendous amount of issues that they might have to adopt ordinances for but he asked the commission to help them out by investigating some of those things.

Mrs. Block stated that going back a long time when Al Pearce was here, residents paid a \$20.00 deposit fee that we are still holding in trust and they were given compost domes for their own use, they were given from the county. Mr. Burke stated it did require one or two days schooling on the use.

Mr. Constantino also stated people ask why we don’t have mulch. We just don’t have any room to store it. It would nice if we could institute that kind of program, Mr. Burke stated he spoke with Jude Walker about that and he is going to try to bring some in for Spring. It is all about the configuration at the Recycling center.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned with motion by Mrs. Burke seconded by Mr. Romanowski. All in favor. Meeting adjourned, 8:35 P.M

Respectfully submitted:

