

Holland Township Environmental Commission Minutes

September 2, 2015 – 7 pm Meeting

Chairman Keady called the meeting to order. He read the notice satisfying the Open Public Meeting Act. All stood for the pledge of allegiance. All were reminded to turn off their cell phones or put them in silent mode.

Members Present: Jerry Bowers, Henry Gore, Ted Harwick, Chairman Michael Keady, Dwight Pederson, Richard Schrack, and Secretary Maria Elena Jennette Kozak.

Absent: Robert Thurgarland,

Township Committee Liaison Present: Ray Krov

Guest: Concerned Citizens Against the Pipeline (Alice Orrichio and Laura Mirsky)

Let the record show we have a quorum.

Minutes: After reading the minutes, a motion was made by Jerry Bowers and seconded by Henry Gore to approve the minutes of August 5, 2015 with corrections. Motion carried.

Proposed Penn East Natural Gas Line through Holland Township – Update of the Pipeline Subcommittee (Dan Bush, Larry LaFevre, Mike Keady and Ken Vogel). Chairman Keady stated that there was nothing new to really report. Mayor Krov reported that the Township has received a letter from PennEast asking for permission to go onto property that is owned by Holland Township. It is the intention of Mayor and Council to NOT allow them to survey. PennEast has also notified the township that they will be in town surveying properties that have responded favorably

Sub-Committees:

Stormwater Education – Mike Keady, Robert Thurgarland and Maria Elena Jennette Kozak as Secretary Kozak. Nothing to report at this time.

Community Day – September 12, 2015 (Rain date September 13, 2015 – Sunday). Dwight Pederson has fishing project ready. Secretary Kozak will try to locate metal frames for displaying the posters. Jerry Bowers has a few. Set up is 11:30 am. Chairman Keady will stop by the office to see Secretary Kozak to get the handouts and giveaways. The Concerned Citizens Against the Pipeline will be with the Environmental Commission at Community Day. The volunteer Arsenic Consultant might also be present. The contact for the rain barrel will also be present. Ray Krov will be walking around. Jerry Bowers will be with the Fire Company. Chairman Keady, Ted Harwick, Dwight Pederson and Rick Schrack will be helping with the event.

Trails – Ted Harwick (chair), Robert Thurgarland and Richard Schrack. Discussion of the Hunterdon Land Trust problem on the Saeger property took place. Dirt Bikes are being allowed on the property but the Deed of Conservation exists and it restricts dirt bikes. Mayor Krov stated that he would have Deputy Mayor Dan Bush look into the situation. ANJEC grant consultant Brittany Weider is on hold with looking at trails on the Saeger property. Jerry Bowers believes that we need to find a way to work with Hunterdon Land Trust so as to fix the problem and then we can move forward with the ANJEC grant project. Then the discussion took place about Bethany Ridge/Holland Park and the proposed minor subdivision of the manor house and guest houses. At this time an application has not been made to the Planning Board but Planning Board Secretary Kozak has been contacted and the application is expected. ANJEC consultant Brittany Wieder is prepared to assess the meadow area for possible meadow trails notwithstanding what might not happen with the minor subdivision. There is also concern with public access. There are a few potential issues. The township is not sure what they want to do with the property. Public access has been addressed. The township has created a road and it shows the best

place for a potential recreational facility with 2 remaining parcels that would be best suited for trails. The non-profit group is still exploring options for the property. Chairman Keady expressed his belief that the bigger picture could be to connect the property with other preserved parcels. Additional discussion took place regarding what could ANJEC consultant Brittany Wieder do and how Jerry Bowers can work with her on exploring additional options. Henry Gore also requested that they explore paved paths. There is discussion on a county level to connect trails. Ted Harwick will contact the county to report back on options. NJ Bikers Association maintains the trails on the Saeger property. Jerry Bowers will edit the existing report and submit as an update to ANJEC. .

Web Page – Jerry Bowers, Dwight Pederson, and Rick Schrack –The new web design company is working on creating the new website. The Ridge is being worked on first. More information to follow.

Highlands Conformance – Jerry Bowers (chair), Mike Keady and Henry Gore. Another topic discussed was updating to the Zoning Maps. Maser Consulting is working on the zoning maps project. An update will follow.

Shade Tree and Community Forestry Plan Sub-Committee – Henry Gore, Robert Thurgarland, Dwight Pederson and Maria Elena Jennette Kozak as secretary. Secretary Kozak will see if there is an update. Secretary Kozak will also forward the information on the training seminar in October to Henry Gore.

Public Comment: No comments.

Hunterdon Land Trust tree planting – September 20th. Information is available and will be sent by Secretary Kozak to be put on the web.

At 8:35 pm Ted Harwick made a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted

Maria Elena Jennette Kozak

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Environmental Commission Secretary