

2019 REORGANIZATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING

CORRECTED

January 16, 2019

OPENING MEETING:

The **Reorganization/Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission** of the Borough of Roosevelt was held on Wednesday, **January 16, 2019** at 7:02 P.M at the Borough Hall. The Roll was called by **Michael Ticktin**, who was re-appointed **Chairperson** by Mayor Peggy Malkin at the recent **January 2, 2019** Reorganization Meeting of the Borough Council. His **Three-year term is 1/1/2017 – 12/31/2019.**

SIGNING OF OATHS BY NEWLY APPOINTED AND ALTERNATE MEMBERS:

Regular Members **Nicholas Murray** and **Kimberly Felong** completed their Oaths of Office as Regular Members of this Commission. Both were installed for **Three-year Regular Terms: 1/1/2019 – 12/31/2021.** Members who will complete their Oaths at a later date are **Messrs. Ashburner, Hartley, Parker and Margotta.**

ROLL CALL:

Present; Felong, Monteleone, Murray, Ticktin, Tulloss, Ashburner-Alt 2

Absent: Hartley, Parker, Margotta-Alt 1,

ADEQUATE PUBLIC NOTICE OF MEETING STATEMENT:

To show that proper notice of this meeting has been given, **Chairperson Michael Ticktin** stated that the minutes indicate: “Adequate notice of this meeting has been given, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, by filing with the Borough Clerk, by posting on bulletin boards at the Roosevelt Borough Hall and Roosevelt Post Office, and by publication in the Times of Trenton and in the Asbury Park Press on **February 6, 2018.**”

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR AND SECRETARY:

Vice-Chairperson - Motion was made by Ms. Kimberly Felong and second by Ms. Mary Tulloss that Mr. **Nicholas Murray** continue as Vice Chairperson. This passed unanimously..

Secretary - Motion was made by Ms. Mary Tulloss and second by Ms. Kimberly Felong that Ms. **Ann Kassahun** continue as Secretary. This passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF SCHEDULE OF MEETING DATES FOR 2019:

Chair Michael Ticktin asked for a motion and second to approve meeting dates **continuing** to be held on the **third Wednesday** of each month. Motion was made by Mr. Nicholas Murray and second by Ms. Kimberly Felong for meetings to continue each month for the year **2019 and January 15, 2020** at 7:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall. Members unanimously accepted the following Environmental Commission meeting dates:

REGULAR MEETING DATES

February 20, 2019	August 21, 2019
March 20, 2019	September 18, 2019
April 17, 2019	October 16, 2019
May 15, 2019	November 20, 2019
June 19, 2019	December 18, 2019
July 17, 2019	January 15, 2020

This ends the 2019 Reorganization portion of this meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE AGENDA: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Chair Ticktin asked for motion and second to approve this evening's Agenda. Motion was made by Mr. Nick Murray, seconded by Ms. Mary Tulloss, and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was made by Mary Tulloss and second by Mr. Nick Murray to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 19, 2018 with the following corrections: On page 37 under Approval of the Agenda, line 1, correct "NickMurray" to read "Nick Murray". On page 38 under Forest Management, line 2, change "Brandy" to read "**Brandee**" and also on page 38, line 3, under Stream Monitoring, line 2, change "vertebrae" to read "**invertebrates**". Also take out "She has purchased some" and replace with "She has asked members of the Environmental Commission to save bags like them." Also add "Mary Macher has offered to donate some Red Bud Trees and is willing to help us." On page 39, line 3, change "Cyprus" to read "**bald cypress**" and the last line change "hard wood" to one word, "**hardwood**".

CORRESPONDENCE: DEP about "Tree City" (Arbor Day)

REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD LIAISON: Mr. Tim Hartley was absent

REPORT OF COUNCIL LIAISON: Mr. Cody Parker was absent.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Administrative - No Report

Forest Management - Mr. Nick Murray reported that we are near the deadline Feb 15, this year, to submit our paperwork, Annual Accomplishment Report for CFMP. It will need the Mayor's signature. He is checking how much we spent and will have this paperwork summary before next week and send copies to our members for review before submitting it. Report will include invasive species removal, replanting native species, maintaining the deer enclosure on the Trail, classes attended. Motion was made for a Resolution authorizing Mr. Murray to proceed with this paperwork by Ms. Felong and second by Ms. Monteleone, passed unanimously. Mr. Murray mentioned that members keep in mind that we need classes taken in the future. Ms. Felong reported that she took a Hazardous Tree Identification class November 30th and learned how to rate problem trees, checking the root, trunk and crown. A single "major" defect can warrant removal and a problem at the crown indicates a problem at the roots. It is good to check our local trees and head off problems. Chair Ticktin asked what we can do to help or recommend to the Borough and Ms. Felong mentioned a problem tree which fell near their house. The Borough has been taking care of trees that fall even on private property, which is very unusual for towns to do. Damage is covered by Home Owner's Insurance. It would be good to notify people of problem trees, if possible. Mr. Steve Taylor mentioned that his daughter's town has tagged all the trees. Several members mentioned tree experiences they have had or know about. It was suggested that we apply for a grant to help work with local trees.

Invasive Plant Species - Mr. Steve Taylor reported that they have a number of **activities for 2019**. They will continue to plant and label plants on Spruce Lane and ask that the Borough help mow further back to help with the poison ivy. Expanding west could be a project in 2019. There are some Autumn Olives in several sections and other piles to remove behind 15 Lake Drive. There is stuff that we took off the Trail that still has to be removed. Mr. Taylor mentioned that approval would have to come from the Counsel for locals to help, with residents' paperwork to assume responsibility if anyone gets hurt. We approach Spring pick-up, lots of burning bushes and periwinkle, also two cherry trees failing. Mr. Taylor suggests that we put our information on the Borough website to let residents know what we are trying to accomplish. Chair Ticktin agreed that we should get people interested in helping, then we should take this before the Borough Council. There should be paperwork that residents will not sue the town, that they will assume responsibility for their own actions. Mr. Taylor added that we will have milkweed plants for the 4th of July; we need a bush pick-up (burning bush and periwinkle, etc.). Mr. Taylor asked if we should expand the Spruce Lane area and whether to get a group working behind 15 Lake Drive, and how we should enable residents to get rid of invasive species. We need to firm up some projects and work with the Council. Mr. Nick Murray will be distributing a 2018 DO NOT PLANT LIST that he recently received to residents.

Stream Monitoring - Ms. Mary Tulloss has been checking some other areas to get ideas for working with our problems.

OLD BUSINESS:

Status of Butterfly Garden - Chairperson Ticktin reported that there has been a lot of activity at the front of the Borough Hall. They did not pave over it, but have put stones over the area. They have left three trees there so something could be planted there. We will have to ask at the Council Meeting what the plans are. He is thinking that the alternative space we can ask for is the space behind the Borough Hall next to the other building. In the meantime Steve Taylor says that some species of milkweed can thrive in the wet soil there. It would be nice for educational purposes to have it more prominent. Ms. Mary Tulloss mentioned that it was nicer for the residents to see the milkweed, if it were on the front of the building. Chair Ticktin suggested that she come to the next Council Meeting, express her thoughts and see what their response is. Ms. Tulloss could put it on record that the Environmental Commission apologizes, is sorry about the removal of the Butterfly Garden because it was a demonstration for the Borough residents to see what this garden was like. Let the Council members see there are positive alternatives.

Sustainable Jersey - Chair Ticktin said we need to work on a list of what we can tackle this year. Mr. Nick Murray reminded us that we are working for points. Mr. Ashburner commented on placing articles/advertisements in our Bulletin; points could be made. Mr. Murray said we could work on a list as a group. Also there are some limits; some are priority and some mandatory, which he will check. Ms. Heidi Monteleone is also interested in our working as a group. Mr. Ashburner said that a Tree Inventory and Planting is worth 20 points. Ms. Mary Tulloss asked if Stream Restoration could be an area to work on? Mr. Nick Murray said that Tree Inventory money is sizeable; he will check their *website* for possibilities for the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS - None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business, on motion by Ms. Kimberly Felong and second by Mr. Nick Murray, this meeting was adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

Ann M. Kassahun