

CORRECTED

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

May 20, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission of the Borough of Roosevelt was called to order by Chairperson Michael Ticktin on Wednesday, May 20, 2020 at 7:35 P.M. We are not at the Borough Hall; **this is a “Zoom” meeting.** Members adjusted their recording equipment. The Roll was called by Secretary Ann Kassahun.

ROLL CALL:

Present; Ashburner, Hartley, Ticktin, Tulloss

Absent: Dermody, Felong, Murray, Silverman - Alt 1 Vacant - Alt 2

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 notices published in the Times of Trenton and in the Asbury Park Press on January 24, 2020 and posted on the bulletin boards in the Borough Hall and at the Roosevelt Post Office. This meeting is being conducted by “Zoom” and notice of this meeting was given on the Roosevelt Borough Website.”

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE AGENDA: None

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Chairperson Ticktin said that the only thing to be added would be that information was sent out about the **4th of July celebration** which we will **not** have this year. Motion to approve this Agenda was made by Ms. Tulloss and Second was made by Mr. Ashberner. This passed by unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was made by Mr. Tim Hartley and Second by Ms. Mary Tulloss that the minutes of **April 15** be approved with the following minor corrections: page 1, under Approval of the Agenda, line 2, change “meeting” to “celebration”. On page 2, under Forest Management, line 1, change “Ashburnerr” to “Ashburner” and line 4, change “roufully” to “roughly”. Also on page 2,, under New Business, change “accessing” to “assessing”. On page 3, under Adjournment, change Ashbuner to Ashburner. These corrections were **unanimously** accepted.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Chair Ticktin mentioned that this Commission was notified electronically that the ANJEC application was received on time and accepted.

REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD LIAISON :

Mr. Hartley reported they had a meeting on May 5; there wasn't much business, but the Mayor announced that Roosevelt was up to **five (5) COVID-19 cases**. Chair Ticktin said that the Roosevelt count is now at **six**. **Also our Roosevelt Public School was placed recently on the listing of 10 most endangered "historic properties" in New Jersey**. Chair Ticktin helped by nominating our School and submitting information. With this historic status on record, it should help us continue operating our school and bringing attention to it.

REPORT OF COUNCIL LIAISON:

Having this Historic status on record should help bring attention to the risk of the school being closed.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Administrative - Chair Ticktin reported that the ANJEC application was filed.

Forest Management - Messer. Sam Ashburner reported that he installed two new signs at the the Trail Head for **No Littering** and **No Biking**. He needs to purchase parts to put up one more sign. He will be reaching out to Public Works about them clearing the debris that was left at the Rochdale - Tamara Trail and some of it is in the water also. Chair Ticktin mentioned an e-mail to him and Nick Murrey from Ana Debevec/Borough Hall about debris between Tamara and the Sewer Plant. Sam mentioned a fairly large tree down on the Rochdale-North Valley area and he saw that the bikers had taken other logs, piled them up on each side, making a little ramp so they could ride over them. Sam mentioned that the Landscaping Contractor followed through on the Trail in their bi-annual clean-up. Also there are new signs on the Trail that say "No ATVS". Ms. Mary Tulluss mentioned a very nice display cabinet at the Trail where you go from the Cemetery to North Valley; there is nothing in it like the maps we used to have. Mr. Ashburner said that he believes that Nick Murray is working on getting copies of the map and then have the Park people unlock the cabinet to refill it.

Invasive Plant Species - No report

Stream Monitoring - Ms. Mary Tulloss attended a meeting today on Stream Monitoring given by the Watershed people. They gave us a very good overview of the three types of monitoring that they do. There is a new one that she hopes we will get involved with. They don't know when they will start up again. We are on their list to be contacted at that time.

Sustainable Jersey - Ms. Mary Tulloss reported that a lot of work is being done at the local **Roosevelt School**. She asked members taking a walk to stop by and notice the improvements. Steve Taylor has done a lot to help. Building materials have been received for a raised fence. Mr. Taylor and his wife have built and painted them and they have been installed. There was also a donation of topsoil and mulch that was delivered. Ms. Tulloss was not sure when and how the planting will take place. The school may not want anybody to be in the building. There was a plan for families to have individual weeks. Chair Ticktin added how deadlines are extended now because of the current global emergency.

Old Business - Chair Ticktin mentioned that the **ANJEC** application was submitted. The **Bamboo Ordinance** is tabled until the Council acts on it. They have until the end of the year. Their concern was to have a public meeting, so the local people could have more input in this.

New Business - Mr. Tim Hartley raised the point that he would like the Environmental Commission to look into putting together a **Roosevelt Field Guide** similar to one that was developed about 1994. It was a nice guide for local people. Ms. Mary Tulloss and Mr. Sam Ashburner mentioned that there is a bit of an electronic version of it that is available, so they will be sharing that with our members and talking about it more next month. Also Mr. Hartley shared with the members that he had seen a **very interesting bird** recently in Roosevelt, a Rose-Breasted Gros-beak of the Cardinal family. This is only the second time he has seen one here. Ms. Mary Tulloss said that **Kim Felong** and Diane **Lowrie** were part of a **Bird Count** that did Roosevelt and several other places. They found 40 species in Roosevelt. Mr. Tim Hartley added that he sees about 30 species in his back yard. There was more discussion of birds in Roosevelt.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business, on motion by Mr. Hartley and second by Mr. Ashburner, this meeting was ended unanimously at 8:07 P.M.

Ann M. Kassahun, Secretary