

Borough of Fair Lawn
Environmental Commission

May 6, 2009

Chairperson Dabney called the meeting to order at 7:42 pm.

Present: Wendy Dabney, Emil DeLuccia, Joseph Mele, Atiqaur Rahman, Nancy Sperling, Phil Cassidy, Health Officer Carol Wagner and Kim Wei.

Absent: Deputy Mayor Joseph Tedeschi

Minutes:

On a motion by Nancy Sperling, seconded by Chairperson Dabney the minutes from the February 4 meeting were approved. All in favor.

On a motion by Phil Cassidy, seconded by N. Sperling the minutes from the March 4 meeting were approved. All in favor.

On a motion by Kim Wei, seconded by Phil Cassidy the minutes from the April 1 meeting were approved. All in favor.

Correspondence: The Mayor and Council sent a letter to the EPA and DEP regarding the town's displeasure with the plan regarding the Well Field delisting. Atigaur Rahman contacted M. Zoeller, NJDEP, who agreed to send a report to the Library and map to FLEC which depicts houses being tested. They plan to do testing on commercial property and many houses were already tested.

Reports:

Health Department: See handout report. C. Wagner gave a report on all correspondence received during April 2009 re: environmental issues with NJDEP oversight.

Water Quality Team: Emil DeLuccia will be attending two upcoming sessions of the Passaic River Coalition. May 9 is the Environmental Clean Up by Memorial Middle School. They will do a safety walk and clean up. Mr. Cohen was contacted by NYLife to do an article on the Memorial River Walk. The River Walk signs are complete. The National Audubon Society provided plans for the planting of native plants at Fair Lawn High School.

Planning Board: Phil Cassidy had nothing to report. No information package was provided for next Monday's meeting.

Educational Outreach: Health Officer Wagner reported that Lyncrest School designed a bulletin board on display in the Health Department.

FLEC discussed establishing "Environmental High Five" on the FLEC webpage on the town website. W. Dabney suggested that we put the Bulletin Board onto the webpage.

Chairperson Dabney reported that Lyncrest School opened their Environmental Center.

Chairperson Dabney plans to work with Karin Hodos at the Senior Center in researching the Senior Environmental Exploration, an Internet based program, however, the Senior Center first needs to get the Internet.

Emil DeLuccia reported on Memorial Middle School Environmental Club initiatives such as: the River Walk Clean Up on May 9, planting an environmental garden for birds and butterflies during migration, Arbor Day on May 26 and declaring Tuesdays as "Green Days" at Memorial School.

Emil DeLuccia also reported on Fair Lawn High School's Environmental Club initiatives including: recycling of plastic bottle caps, researching solar energy and creating a power point presentation on converting part of Fair Lawn High School to solar power, sending six students to Rutgers for an environmental summit on solar power and global warming and planning to survey the woods behind Lyncrest School with the intent to clean it up and make trails.

Council Liaison Report:

There was no report as Deputy Mayor Tedeschi was not present.

Open Space: No report was available since The Open Space meeting was cancelled.

Old Business:

New Member: Appointment of Kim Wei

Change of Appointments: Joe Mele and Gina Bernstein

Oath of Office for 2009 Members: Oath of Office were signed by Kim Wei and Emil DeLuccia.

Euro Cars (Scholastic Bus) Site Plan Review and Discussion and Approval: Joseph Mele went to a Zoning Board meeting. Eurocars and two others, Tri Boro Choppers and Tanis will be discussed at the June 15 meeting.

J. Mele reported that there has been much litigation in the past regarding Scholastic Bus parking buses on the lot. The litigation has nothing to do with the new application. Joseph Mele gathered information from consultants about converting the building from pet supplies to a mechanic shop. How are they going to ventilate when cars are in the shop? Where is the oil and transmission oil going to be contained?

Earth Day Celebration, April 22: Chairperson Dabney, Phil Cassidy and Health Officer Wagner participated in Earth Day activities at the Fair Lawn Senior Center on April 22, 2009. Recycle bags attained from Shop Rite were given out with Environmental literature on "green" initiatives that residents can implement. The remainder of bags will be distributed by FLEC at River Regatta. C. Wagner plans to draft a thank you letter.

New Business:

The Environmental Commission agreed to add a “green list” to promote all departments to do double sided copies.

Chairperson Dabney informed the FLEC about the Cliff’s Garden Florist, 13-09 Saddle River Rd., who is donating 300 lilac plants to a resident in Fair Lawn who wants to plant them on their property. Mr. Paek also wants to fund a bus trip for Fair Lawn students to go to Longwood Gardens. Chairperson Dabney is supposed to have another meeting with Mr. Paek and Jane DePriveen next month. Kim Wei is going to find out the name of the teacher at Milnes and TJ and give them to Chairperson Dabney. Chairperson Dabney will write a letter to Mr. Arts, Kathy Meneghin, Mr. Hildabrand, Mr. Cohen and other teachers interested in environmental issues.

Chairperson Dabney mentioned that FLEC has been asked to have a table at the Annual Canoe Race and plans to give out re-usable bags form Shop Rite and Shop ‘n Shop. J. Mele approved Stop ‘n Shop for bags and Nancy Sperling will approach Whole Foods about more bags.

There was much discussion on mapping and monitoring the wells in town. Health Officer Wagner will compile all monitoring well records filed in the Health Department for Joseph Mele to map.

Site Plan Approval Review: Chairperson Dabney suggested that Joseph Mele be the liaison between the Zoning Board and Environmental Commission and the Health Officer Wagner will contact Joseph Mele when a site plan application is received. Joseph Mele will review the plans and report to the FLEC. Joseph Mele asked Chairperson Dabney to contact Todd Newman on the Zoning Board and request if Joseph Mele can contact the Zoning Board Attorney to find out the process of who to respond to by letter/memo.

Public Comment: No public in attendance.

Next Meeting: June 3, 2009 at 7:30 pm

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Phil Cassidy, seconded by Atigaur Rahman to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 pm.