

Holland Township Environmental Commission Minutes

July 1, 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 (arrived 7:30 pm), Robert Thurgarland, and Secretary Maria Elena Jennette Kozak.

Absent: n/a

Township Committee Alternate Liaison Present: Ray Krov

Guest: Christopher Fletcher (interested in helping us)

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 June 2, 2015. 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). Ray Krov and Ken Vogel meet with two representatives of PennEast. It was a meeting to discuss what is going on. Holland Township is awaiting the power points for distribution (it will be in pdf form). It was reported that meetings are taking place with key players. The Gilbert Plant (NRG) is moving forward with purchasing gas as they are one of the subscribers to PennEast if the pipeline goes thru. There would be two supplies if the pipeline goes thru. There would also be an interconnection. The proposed pipeline has been moved from the Huntington Knolls site and more towards the bluffs which is an environmentally sensitive area. Chairman Keady mentioned the rumors that PennEast is going to municipalities and trying to get municipal officials to support the project. The Transco project in Kingwood was discussed. The topic of eminent domain was also brought up. For the Penn East project 2/3 of the NJ properties involved have not committed to allowing the survey to take place.

Sub-Committees:

Stormwater Education – Mike Keady, Robert Thurgarland and Maria Elena Jennette Kozak as Secretary Kozak.

Secretary Kozak – the next activity is community day in September. Dwight Pederson will work on the fishing project that has been done the last few years. He is going to work on making it more educational. Secretary Kozak will send Dwight Pederson the Watershed Ambassador the contact information. An idea came up about contacting Aqua NJ to see if they have a display we can use at Community Day. The date is the first Saturday after Labor Day which is September 12, 2015.

Trails – Ted Harwick (chair), Robert Thurgarland and Richard Schrack. ANJEC Grant deadline was April 1, 2015. ANJEC Grant and DEP NJ Recreational Trails Program grant have been filed. The ANJEC grant was approved. We are awarded \$1480.00. We are still waiting for word about the DEP NJ Recreational Trails Program grant. Jerry Bowers and Mike Keady meet with Brittany Wieder. Contact information was given to Ms. Wieder for Hunterdon Land Trust, Farmers Sportsman, Holland Park non-profit, and the Chairman for the Parks & Recreation Committee. Hunterdon Land Trust has existing brochures which should help with this project. The maps are GIS based and Robert Thurgarland and Rick Schrack are available to help with the project.

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. There is grant money available for the new highland zone. Maser is working on the map with overlays. To update the existing Holland Township zoning map will cost approximately \$500.00. Everyone present agreed that it would be a good idea to update the existing map since it was done in the 90's. 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 has the revised plan that has been signed by Mayor Krov and will submit to the state for processing. An update will follow when received.

Woodland Management Plan Discussion: Henry Gore expressed concern that people are logging and stripping the land. The additional concern would be in clear cutting the land regarding the pipeline. Mr. Gore is in favor of creating a forestry ordinance which evolved into a discussion.

Public Comment: No comments.

At 8:20 pm Jerry Bowers made a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted

Maria Elena Jennette Kozak

Maria Elena Jennette Kozak

Environmental Commission Secretary