

# Holland Township Environmental Commission Minutes

September 6, 2017 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 (sworn in below), Ted Harwick, Mike Keady, Susan Meacham, Dwight Pederson, Rick Schrack and Secretary Maria Elena Jennette Kozak.

Present: Township Committee Liaison: Robert Thurgarland

Absent: n/a

Oaths of Office:

David Harrison – tabled until the next scheduled meeting as he was out of town.

Henry Gore - Township Committee Liaison Robert Thurgarland administered the Oath of Office to Environmental Commission Member-Emeritus Henry Gore. Welcome back Henry Gore and Congratulations.

Let the record show we have a quorum.

Minutes: A motion was made by Jerry Bowers and seconded by Rick Schrack to approve the August 2, 2017 minutes as presented. All present were in favor of the motion with the exception of Mike Keady who abstained. Motion carried.

PennEast Pipeline Update: Susan Meacham reported that FERC has a quorum and can vote on a project. The NJ DEP kicked back the PennEast application. If PennEast has the certifications they claim they have then they can go on the property but until eminent domain takes place PennEast does not have the right to be on your land until they get their permits. The Federal Court is who will decide Eminent Domain PennEast can electronically file for Eminent Domain and serve the people which then gives people a certain number of days to respond. Homeowners are getting together and hiring attorneys to fight for the terms of what they can get in the Eminent Domain situation. Susan Meacham wrote a letter to the newspaper. If people signed an easement agreement then they are done. If residents go thru Eminent Domain then they could get more money (Jerry Bowers departed at 8:05 pm for a fire call). If the project does not move forward and Eminent Domain was used then the easement goes back to the homeowner. Susan Meacham asked if the township was going to let the townspeople know what is going on.

Community Day/Green Fair: Saturday September 9, 2019. Everyone confirmed their participation and arrival for the event. Stephanie will be in attendance with her rain barrel. The pools will be set up on the side and Jerry Bowers will make sure the Fire Company fills

them. The literature and giveaways are ready to be loaded into Chairman Keady's car. The clean energy people and the county have confirmed their attendance as well. Secretary Kozak was asked to reach out to Jessica Neglia to bring up the topic of handicapped parking and to suggest from the EC that the spot behind the chain linked fence is a good location for handicapped parking,

Sub-Committees:

Stormwater Education – Mike Keady, Rick Schrack and Maria Elena Jennette Kozak as Secretary –nothing new to report.

Trails – Ted Harwick, Jerry Bowers and Richard Schrack. – Progressing. All are aware of the April 2018 deadline.

Community Education and Outreach – Jerry Bowers, Dwight Pederson, and Susan Meacham – If you see additional corrections that are needed please send them to Secretary Kozak. The link is as follows: <http://www.hollandtownshipnj.gov/14-ec/46-environmental-commission.html>. All were encouraged to think about how to publicize the Trails. Mapping will need to be created etc.

Highlands Conformance – Jerry Bowers and Mike Keady. The Highlands Council Land Use Ordinance and the Highlands Council approved Zoning Map will be available for review. The documents will be introduced by the Township Committee for First Reading at the scheduled meeting of October 3, 2017. The Planning Board will then review the documents for consistency with the Master Plan at the scheduled meeting of October 9, 2017. The Township Committee will conduct a second reading and Public Hearing at the scheduled meeting of November 8, 2017. Secretary Kozak will forward all documents to the township committee, the planning board and the environmental commission members once approved by the Highlands Council subcommittee. Discussion took place about the process including where to put the documents for public viewing as well as technical discussions of putting the documents on the website. Mike Keady and Jerry Bowers will create a cheat sheet. Mike Keady and Darlene Green will also work on a PowerPoint presentation to show what changes will take place.

Shade Tree and Community Forestry Plan Sub-Committee – Ted Harwick, Dwight Pederson and Maria Elena Jennette Kozak as secretary.

Henry Gore reminded everyone that the approved Tree Class Seminar is to be held on Saturday September 23, 2017 with a start time of 10 am. Please meet at the Ridge. Henry Gore and Dwight Pederson did meet to layout the trees to identify. Henry Gore, Dwight Pederson and Mike Keady will meet again to finalize the trees to be discussed at the seminar. Remember the identification key will be vital in tree identification. As a hint, Henry Gore reminded everyone that they should look into what separates walnuts from hickory. The exam will have the common and scientific names.

A sign in sheet will be needed to submit to the state for credit. Our contact Pam Zipse has been in contact with us and will be expecting the sign in sheet.

Just a reminder, if you participate in a webinar please provide Secretary Kozak with your certificate so she can work with the state on keeping track of the hours.

Public Comment: No comments were expressed.

Township Committee Liaison Robert Thurgarland announced that the Recycling Center will be collecting E-waste. Committeeman Krov and DPW Supervisor Turdo worked on the project and were able to find a company that will work with Holland so that the residents can bring their e-waste on Saturdays and load into a container at our recycling facility. The program will officially start on September 16, 2017.

At 8: 45 pm Rick Schrack made a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted

*Maria Elena Jennette Kozak*

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Environmental Commission Secretary