

Roxbury Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May13th 2021; Senior Center- First meeting without masks!

Meeting started: 7:00 PM

Commissioner Attendance: Fred Hall, Lisa Darling, Jackie Vitiello, Tricia Fragale, Steve Ricucci (meeting minutes), and Anne Gale.

Members of the Public in Attendance: Andrea Van Bonschoten, Cintra Fricke, Clint Robinson

Pledge of Allegiance

Jackie began the meeting thanking all the commissioners for continuing to meet over the last year.

Members of the Public

Cintra was concerned about theft at the garden.

Tricia and Jackie stated that usually, other gardeners are the one taking things from plots.

Clint - Cornell has a birding day that identifies bird species. He also asked about any mono filament bins and the owl and bat box.

Jackie stated that there are more mono filament bins and the bat box was a scout project.

Clint provide a native shrub list for the Commission.

Jackie asked about past meeting minutes and if the Commissioners had any other comments. Motion to finalize past minutes was agreed.

Administrative – Budget

Tricia – Update- Budget was passed

Fenimore Update

Fred spoke with NJDEP- the oxidizer and scrubber are old and need repair/replacement at the site. NJDEP wanted to update. Oxidizers only last five years. NJDEP turns on smaller oxidizers then cleans the larger ones.

Fred was checking NJDEP website checking readings which have come down.

There was an 80% reduction initially.

Fred hopes numbers would continue to go down.

Fred will send Town Council communication to Environmental Commission.

Fred and Tricia will go to the site when NJDEP will be present.

Planning Board

Application for development on Old Ledgewood Road. Env. Commission received a letter.

Ongoing Matters/Projects/Public Outreach

Succasunny Day 2021. Hopefully it will occur.

Public may ask why all the trees have been taken down.

- Storm, Emerald Ash borer.
- Trees with a white X and Pink Ribbon Trees will come down.

Clint asked if shrubs can be removed prior to trees coming down. The Commission would have to discuss.

Stream Clean up – Tricia had 750 lbs. and Jackie had 500 lbs. removed.

Jackie -Stream Monitoring – need training to monitor streams.

In person and /or online. Monitoring includes three weeks in June with exceptions.

Garden Matters

Anne – Lisa's husband will work around garden and needs an extra set of keys if possible.

Permaculture garden- Brian, a former member of the garden, will design the garden.

Porta Potty prices were received. Potty with a sink was discussed and more expensive.

Env. Commission pays for this expense, April – November

The Commission decided to go with regular porta potty.

Lisa will make the arrangements for this.

Apiary

Jackie- had a workday at the apiary. Cleaned up the area. Bees are buzzing.

For Discussion Next Month:

Will meetings be also held virtually? Yes, for the next few months.

Motion to adjourn. Meeting Ended.