

# ROXBURY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 13, 2022

**Attendees:** J. Vitiello, T. Fragale, S. Ricucci, A. Gale, L. Darling: council liaison F. Hall

Absent: B. Benkendorf

### **Public:**

(Roxbury High School Environmental Club) McKenna Stierch, Molly & Sara Olander  
Teacher: Ms. Fehan

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order 7:04p.m

**Approved:** October and November minutes

### **Matters Presented by the Public:**

HS looking to volunteer.

They want to do the river work again with RHA.

Want to do bat boxes as well.

Add Ms. [Fagan@roxbury.org](mailto:Fagan@roxbury.org) to the email list.

Tricia & Steve offered to come and assist with the school group and would like to share some experiences and knowledge.

### **Administrative Matters:**

#### **Budget Update-**

2022 budget approval expected in Feb. (likely to be same as last year)

Requested same amount \$5000

Tricia working on ANJEC dues.

Mail review – no necessary comments on mail.

## **Matters Presented by Commissioners:**

Some Goals:

Pollinator garden

Community Garden Trail – rough needs heavy work with a chain saw

Ledgewood Park Trail & Crossing (flooding issues)

May need more help from town with oversight and cost

Why is there a back up needs to be found – suggestion to follow complete trail and see where it crosses and issues arise.

FRED: To ask Mike Cobars about assistance. Don did clear the backup once but it seems to be a new permanent problem.

TRICIA: Possibly remove the concrete pipes and replace with new solution

FRED: Will reach out to Mike Cobars

JACKIE: River flows most of the time but over the last 2-3 years the flow is larger and lasts longer

STEVE: Wants to come and observe it at the source

FRED: There is a massive flooding issue for residents over in that similar area now and has become a town alert

TRICIA: feels it's the removal of the trees from the natural landscape of the landfill

FRED: yes no landscape to help with the drainage at all now, we will see how to work with the environment for drainage and assist with flooding residents as well.

TRICIA: wants to do a full multi weather workup of photos of the stream during dry time, rain and snow melt to see the flow and paths.

FRED: Canal street has excessive flooding. Sewers go on main street they go to the other side of smiles with water. We need storm water management for assistance.

TRICIA: some options are underground run off basin

JACKIE: the amount of silt is an issue as well. We should start seeing the results of 2021 in March.

TRICIA? We should go on a group hike to explore the entire site

## **FENEMORE**

TRICIA: update on fenemore? We need a detailed good update from the DEP

FRED: Had a NJDEP meeting – they replaced the part of the oxidizer. He asked about levels reduced it has reduced 80% it will go very slow for the balance of 20%. They did not order the iron sponge it continues to go down lower but slow. 21 wells to extract they now take from 9 and they are not reducing so they wont replace the sponge now.

TRICIA: Where are all of the quarterly reports?

FRED: We have not been provided reports or done the water tests regularly. Need to get reports and make the tests up to date and filed for public knowledge. Air monitoring is low which is good. Our website shows constant levels at all times.

STEVE: There are been lots of DEP turnover which is unfortunate and causing issues all around

FRED: also when did the fire dept do their testing?

TRICIA: we need to check with remediation and see if tech needs to change. We should be able to provide current info. How much longer for remediation to get to the magic number so they can do the iron scrubber?

FRED: monitors show clean air

## **Garden update:**

Sent out registration coming in quite quickly.

Spickets leaked causing build up of pressure from Rick Blood

We will be replacing the hoses with contractor level to assist with leaks and blowing of hoses.

Looking to assign quad reps to help with communication and assisting garden manager

Looking to assign people to do the social services plot so that it is cared for properly

Need Shed fix

Complaints of the cardboard will discuss the uses with gardeners

Brian is interested in helping to do the pollinator garden

LISA: Gary and I will handle the removal of the front box and fix it with current updates and Question – should we leave the by laws up?

ANNE: 48 bags of raised bed mix and 48 bags of posting soil from the garden center  
\$800

LISA: Gary will tune up equipment in shed for garden opening

ANNE: The Roxbury garden center will be open this year.

Bill is hanging the owl box.

### **BOYSCOUT UPDATE**

Eagle scout project has been approved.

-Potting bench and library/seed swap – for garden

### **Apiary:**

TRICIA: Suggested we should consider using an old box to set up as a decoration and allow it to be used as a learning tool near the garden for viewing and to promote interest in bees

JACKIE/ANNE: we need to order 2 of each for the apiary which hazel, fragrant aster plants to assist bees and keep them from wondering

JACKIE: apiary needs clippers and a lg pair also

Next meeting February 10, 7 pm

Meeting closed 8:25 pm