

# Roxbury Environmental Commission (REC)

## January 9, 2014 Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:40 p.m.

### Pledge of Allegiance

### Attendance:

**Present:** Bill Benkendorf, Tricia Fragale, Jackie Vitiello, Linda Alnemy, Sonja Boon, Mary Kazoun Miner (late due to another meeting).

**Absent:** No one

**New Members:** Sonja Boon, Mary Miner

**Public:** None

### Roxbury High School Environmental Club

Richard Vetter

### Review of meeting minutes

Minutes from the December 12, 2013 were not submitted (Benkendorf).

### Matters Presented by the Public

None

### Matters Presented by the RHS Environmental Club

Nothing at this time.

### Matters Presented by Commissioners

- **EC Organization for 2014.**

New Commissioners Mary Minor and Sonja Boon welcomed.

T. Fragale presented EC Organization for 2014.

- Chair T. Fragale
- Vice Chair J. Vitiello
- Treasurer-New Member Mary Kazoun Minor
- Secretary-Sonja Boon
- Garden Manager L. Alnemy

- **Budget**

Budget for 2014 has been presented by T. Fragale. Approval of budget will not take place until May, but expect that budget will pass.

- **Website-**T. Fragale will request password from Bob Schultz to transition web site.

Richard Vetter volunteered to take on web site. R. Vetter inquired if there is an hourly rate reimbursement. M. Smith advised he know someone who will also work on the

REC web site for a fee. Word press is supposed to be easy. J. Vitiello volunteered for no charge. T. Fragale going to look into and check on who the town uses.

- **Library Display**

M. Smith and M. Schmidt to set up Library Display for January. Will meet at Library Saturday Morning.

- **Fennimore Update**

M. Schmidt advised that the treatment equipment shut down due to cold on 01/07/14 and that there were no blips on the findings due to shut down. There have been discussions on camouflaging the site with planning. Trucking it out is still in discussion. The township requested that Rutgers professor do a study on what should be done with the stuff as the Township wants in independent opinion; however DEP will not allow the independent third party on the site to generate the report. T. Fragale inquired on the name of the professors doing the report.

- **Trails Update**

J. Vitiello advised on the Ice Age hike scheduled for Saturday January 11, 2013.

### Planning Board Liaison

T. Fragale-Nothing to report.

### Administrative Projects

- **Garden**

- 2014 Plans

- Tree Farm proposed at Garden by DiDomenico for Scout project in open field. EC has plans for that area and issue on taking care of the trees. M. Schmidt will propose they use another open area in Township. W. Benkendorf advised it can take 12-15 years for tree farm to mature and trees have to be protected from deer.
- Pagoda proposed for front area of Garden.
- Winter Newsletter to be drafted by L Alnemy
- List of Equipment needs to be drafted and preparation for 2014 registration.

- **Bees, Bats & Monofilament Bins**

- **Bats**

- R. Vetter advised that 4 Bathouses are up. 2 at Horseshoe Lake and 2 at Picnic Grove at HSL.
- M. Smith proposed that 1 by mounted on the compost bin at the Garden.

- **Monofilament Bins**

- M. Smith to get final totals for 2013. J. Vitiello advised Bins have been previously requested at Black River and Conklin Pond, popular fishing areas. T. Fragale will try to see if Mt. Arlington wants bins and/or a presentation and invite to Bee Class.

- **RHA Stream Clean up**

- Date set for April 26, 2014. J. Vitiello will serve as co-coordinator and will contact C. Raths for site location. EC will team with Trails again as last year. EC will sponsor.

### **Community Outreach**

- **Car Wash Alternatives**-EC will resend letter to Schools about Legends car wash alternative to ensure no DEP fines. T. Fragale advised on CA case where school was fined by DEP.
- **Bee Keeping Class**-Class set for Saturday January 25<sup>th</sup> at Senior Center 9am to 1 pm. Flyers sent out to all gardeners.
- **Soap Making Class**-Pending M. Smith working on getting details from instructor.
- **Earth Day Event**-RHA stream Clean UP-April 26, 2014.
- **Rain Barrel Class**-L. Alnemy working on getting barrels. Free barrels no longer free. Pickle place wants \$20.00 a barrel. L.Alnemy looking at other suppliers.
- Suckasunny Day

### **Next Meeting**

February 13, 2014.

### **Adjourn**

9:15 Motion by J. Vitiello 2<sup>nd</sup> by M. Smith