

ROXBURY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

June 12, 2014

Attendees:

Present: Martin Schmidt, Linda Alnemy, Tricia Fragale, Jackie Vitiello, Mike Smith, Bill Benkendorf, Sonja Boon

Public: Stan Nathanson, Steve Letkowski

Roxbury High School Environmental Club: Richard

Absent: Mary Miner

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 7:40 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Matters Presented by Public

None

Matters Presented by Commissioners

T Fragale noted a meeting was not held in May, 2014 due to a lack of quorum of the REC.

J Vitiello announced that Roxbury has expanded the recycling program to include #4, 5 and 7 containers.

T Fragale discussed the bee series happening at the Morris Museum this month.

Environmental Club elected their new officers for the 2014-15 school year. The new liaison is Brian Miner.

S Boon thanked M Smith for his presentation to the girl scouts. The girl scouts (Troop 1029) planted marigolds at the front of the garden.

J Vitiello returned rakes from the lake clean-up to Home Depot.

M Schmidt recommended T Fragale send minutes to Chris Rath for posting on the website.

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ANJEC grant- T Fragale inquired about the status of the grant budget. She will clarify what is left in the budget and will pull copies of receipts from first half of year.

B Benkendorf will get a quote on a shed for the apiary equipment.

The REC 2014-15 budget has been finalized. 6k was approved- 2k operating, 3k for garden (doesn't include plot money) \$300 apiary, \$100 bat box, \$600 education and outreach.

Fenimore Landfill

The Fenimore Landfill smoke stack was shut down for two days this week. There was a power spike that resulted from turning the power back on that lasted a few minutes today.

J Vitiello inquired if the stacks have been tested. M Schmidt indicated that testing is occurring intermittently at the stack with hand held measuring devices.

Planning Board

T Fragale provided an update on the planning board.

Monofilament Bins

M Smith and M Schmidt will put up a new bin on Saturday. M Smith will coordinate getting them cleaned out.

Stream Sampling

Ledgewood Brook will be tested at 9 am on June 21st. REC will cover cost for a second site, Flanders Drake Brook, at \$150. J Vitiello will send out an email for volunteers. Rich from RHS Environmental Club will send out an email to club members to announce the activity and request volunteers. They will monitor the macro canopy and ripple.

Administrative Projects

Apiary

The apiary group met the last week in May.

Ken Heiman, electrician, donated bees. M Smith retrieved them and added them to the apiary. Multiple hives were split this week.

The apiary will treat for mites in the next month. New ApiGaard strips are recommended by the state. ApiVaard and Mite-Away quick strips are also recommended. Mike Smith will investigate the price on the strips. T Fragale recommended M Smith send out an email to the beekeepers to provide information regarding treatment options.

Succasunna Day- T Fragale would like to do a demonstration at Succasunny Day. An observation hive will be provided. M Smith will reach out to beekeepers to ask for volunteers. Other ideas include picture board (including ANJEC newsletter cover) and other photos.

Garden

L Alnemy thanked REC members for their individual contributions to assisting with maintenance within the garden.

L Alnemy will coordinate a Community Garden demonstration at Succasunny Day.

Communications are being sent out to gardeners on a regular basis as reminders to attend the required meeting and/or to request clean-up of their plots.

Bi-laws will be changed to address the issue of gardeners entering other plots, and removing plants without the permission of the plot holder.

Donations were provided by Asbury Village.

T Fragale received a call from Sam Horton to donate compost. T Fragale provided them with L Alnemy's contact info.

L Alnemy will provide left over hoses to B Benkendorf for recycling.

Trees will be planted along the fence bordering neighbors to increase cover.

J Vitiello inquired about having a Garlic fest in October.

On June 7th there was a successful volunteer clean-up.

Linda will send out an email requesting gardeners to leave the hoses in each quadrant stretched out.

Gardeners should inform the garden manager if they are not able to maintain their plot. Sub-letting or giving the plot to another gardner without the knowledge/permission of the REC is not permitted. This will be added into the bi-laws.

T Fragale asked Linda Alnemy to provide budget numbers to her in the October timeframe for inclusion into the budget submitted to Town Council.

The mushroom logs are fruiting. Logs should be harvested, then wait 4-5 weeks, soak overnight in cold water, and set for second flush. S Letkowski will separate logs that are ready. T Fragale and M Smith will pull names of gardeners and contact them.

Permaculture

Field had been rototilled and planted. Sections were broken down with specific and mixed seeds. 13 lbs of seed and 8 bales of straw were used.

Receipts were provided to T Fragale.

Community Outreach

Water barrel class will be held potentially late in July. Ten participants are signed-up. M Schmidt and L Alnemy will revisit costs, and provide information

October soap making- M Smith will inquire with course instructor regarding required materials. He will also explore the possibility of doing a demonstration of soap making within the community.

Next Meeting

July 10, 2014

Adjournment

J Vitiello moved to adjourn the meeting, and S Boon seconded motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 PM.