

NOVEMBER 16, 2017

Chairperson, Cynthia Coritz, called the regular meeting of The Tuckerton Environmental Commission to order on Thursday, NOV 16, 2017 at 6:45 p.m. at the Borough Hall.

**SUNSHINE STATEMENT:** “Provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act have been complied with as notice was published to the Beacon and the Asbury Park Press, stating the time, date and place of this meeting.”

The following members of the Tuckerton Environmental Commission were in attendance:

Cynthia Coritz, Pat Everson, Robert Rue

Nedean Maddox is absent.

Cynthia Coritz led the flag salute.

**MINUTES:**

Robert Rue moved, seconded by Pat Everson, that the October 12, 2017 meeting minutes be approved. It was so moved by a unanimous consent of the Tuckerton Environmental Commission at 6:50 PM.

**IN- KIND HOURS:**

LOGGED HOURS: To be posted on the FY2017 for the month of OCTOBER 2017 are as follows: Environmental Commission recognizes their members’ donation of time and knowledge for studies and research along with attendance of monthly meetings and available workshops /seminars.

Robert Rue	2.0	Pat Everson	2.0
Nedean Maddox		Cynthia Coritz	3.0

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **FISHING LINE RECYCLING:**

Cynthia Coritz spoke with Andrew K.'s mother, who reported that Andrew is still interested in this project and will call back for updated information.

### **ADOPT A HIGHWAY:**

Pat Everson spoke with the trainer for this project, Mike Ross. She phoned him several times, and seems to be receptive. He is only available certain days a week, and NOT available in the evening. Mr. Ross reported that he is eligible to train only one member of our TEC if available, and that member can then train others.

A tentative date of December 4<sup>th</sup>, has been scheduled for a power point presentation between Pat and Mr. Ross.

Members will review the mission statement on our TEC web site for the Borough.

### **TREE CITY, USA:**

Robert Rue inquired of this status for our application and inquired of Councilman, Sam Colangelo who will report back to our commission.

Councilman, Sam Colangelo reported that the Borough has vested an employee for taking the recycling course, and he has completed this course. His project was developing a compost heap using food scraps and leaves. He attained wooden pallets from area businesses and fashioned crib with discarded PVC and air raider to increase the amount of oxygen, also with the use of a compressor the temperature in leaf piling in soaring. This set up is behind the public works. Sam would like to invite this employee to be a guest at our future TEC meeting. He would like to suggest to the food pantry to grow their own garden and compost station. He hopes to gain interest and his pilot project will spread.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Councilman, Sam Colangelo reported that the recycling information did not make it into this mailing of the Boroughs water and sewer bills, but will inform when the next mailing is done, so that TEC can get the information out in a timely fashion.

Councilman Colangelo distributed Sustainable Jersey actions for sustainable communities and also property maintenance dates of service to be used for our Tree City USA application.

Robert Rue suggested joining with Little Egg Harbor Environmental Committee for clean up at Stafford Forge.

Cynthia Coritz will ask Pat Johnson to advertise in the local paper for recruitment of new members for TEC and also to invite them for the training of Adopt a Highway.

Robert Rue inquired of any age requirement for members of TEC. Councilman, Colangelo will get back to us with an answer.

### **MEMBERS FORUM:**

Robert Rue informed members that legislation is currently being considered for native plant species recommendations to be included with a Master Plan review. Robert attended a Land Use Board meeting recently, and the potential ideal will be approached to the legislative committee.

Robert Rue informed that the Borough Engineer stated the Mater Plan has to be updated, and that will be the primary focus. Robert will communicate with Bob Shinn about the particular ordinance of the plant species and steer along to Keith Vreeland, head of legislation. The concern for absolutely prohibiting invasive plants is challenging, the focus for encouragement of native plants is a better approach.

Councilman Colangelo did announce at Borough Council meetings that TEC is recruiting new members.

### **PUBLIC:**

Councilman, Sam Colangelo is present at tonight's meeting.

Nicole Babcock, a Pinelands High School Student is present this evening and addressed members.

Nicole explained she is a resident of Tuckerton, and a Senior at Pinelands Highschool, She will be studying conservation and sustainable living while attending college next fall. She is an avid hiker and often walks her dog at Stafford Forge. She advocates for recycling and positive influence in the environment. Nicole addressed areas of Stafford Forge, Poor Man's Parkway and Stage Road for possible clean ups.

Cynthia Coritz related our Adopt a Highway project and Barnegat Bay Blitz clean ups the TEC sponsors.

Robert Rue asked if Nicole is getting credit from school. She is not, but she is a member of the Honor Society and would publicize our goals on social media. She also has a tentative list of interested people. Nicole thought spring would be a good time.

Robert Rue suggested partnering with Little Egg Harbor's Environmental Commission.

Nicole distributed maps of Stafford Forge wildlife area and explained she would like to advocate a spring kick off to organize a voluntary clean up. Her goal is to cover the entire forge. Nicole approached TEC this evening for permission from Borough and possible legalities she may encounter. She asked if she would need to sign a waiver to ensure safety of interested public.

Councilman Colangelo stated this is a very ambitious project and commendable. He related that any time residents/citizens get involved, there must be a plan to submit for evaluation to our Borough Solicitor for review and then run by municipal insurance, a joint insurance fund. If approved, the Borough can get involved.

Nicole has a good starting point. She is advocating to distribute pamphlets on how to save the earth, the little things that can make a difference.

Cynthia suggested Nicole attend LEH environmental commission and will add Nicole to the list of volunteers for our TEC sponsored clean ups.

Another location suggested for clean ups is Freedom Fields, and the wetlands need attention, reported Pat Everson.

Nicole mentioned she is also part of a Science Club that has interested students. She is also the Student Body Vice President, very active with her school.

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

Attain a clean copy of Tree City, USA application for Robert Rue.

Pat Everson will initiate a meeting training date of December 4<sup>th</sup> with Mike Ross.

Sam Colangelo will check on permission for student help and clean up. He will check with insurance and necessary waivers. Councilman Colangelo will report back on the deadline date for mailing our recycling pamphlet inclusion, and the minimum age requirement for board members for TEC.

### **INVOICE:**

Robert Rue moved, seconded by Pat Everson, to approve the invoice of \$75 to Susan Maguire for secretarial services for the month of NOV 2017. It was so moved by the unanimous consent of members.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Pat Everson moved, second by Robert Rue, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was unanimously approved at 800 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Maguire,

Secretary

Tuckerton Environmental Commission