

Elk Township Environmental Commission (ETEC)
February 11, 2009
Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

ETEC Members: Billie Chambers, Frank Goss, Kevin Costello, Donna Nicholson, Donna Weiss, and Teal Jefferis

Elk Twp Committee: Tony Creta
Michelle Doyle

Recreation Committee: Annemarie Weitzel

Absent: Larry Christy

I. January 14, 2009, Meeting Minutes Approval

- a. January meeting minutes were unanimously approved

II. Public Discussion

N/A

III. New Business

- a. Carol Brodtkin attended to discuss South branch of Raccoon Creek. Carole noted that after the expansion of mobile home park there was a drop in stream water levels and apparent drying of the stream bed. It is an exceptional wetland and headwater. Carole invited ETEC to come view the area from her property. Discussed exploring a partnership with ANJEC, South Harrison Township and ETEC for grant to restore and preserve this area via storm water management. Will need to engage land owners. The South Harrison Township Environmental Commission meeting is the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7pm.
- b. Planning Board Applications:
 - i. No new applications received

IV. Old Business

- a. Holly Acres Update. Donna Nicholson contacted Mike Kosierowski of Lake Garrison regarding Holly Acres. ETEC will draft a letter to Lake Garrison commission summarizing our understanding of the site and let them take any action from here. NJDEP is overseeing restoration being conducted by Holly Acres.
- b. Arbor Day Celebration – Date set for Saturday April 25th at 10am, rain or shine.

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- Billie heading up efforts and reached out to the Aura School for ideas and support.
 - We will create certificates for all elementary school children that will participate and have the mayor sign them.
 - Recreation Committee will provide refreshments.
 - Will plant a tree from the Rec. Committee tree plan (October Glory Red Maple).
 - Will reach out to Mike Hogan to see if he would give a guided tour of Elephant Swamp.
 - Will get plaques for the 2 trees currently out there to show that day
 - Will display the Recreation Committee's Bench and Tree Plan
 - Teal and Billie will not be present; Donna Weiss will run the program.
- c. Radon – Donna Nicholson to develop a write up to be posted on the Elk website and put into the next Newsletter.
- d. Elephant Swamp Work –
- Teal summarized cost estimates for the benches, stone, gate and lumber and signs.
 - Donna Weiss will ask Carole Brodtkin about cost and source for educational signs.
 - Kevin to develop a plan and cost for plantings at the entrance to the trail

V. Correspondence

- a. Rutgers Seminar on Rain Gardens, if anyone is interested reach out to Teal.
- b. Gloucester County Natural Club invitation to sponsor the 2009 Bird Quest. ETEC unanimously voted to sponsor the event.

VI. Open Commission Discussion

N/A

VII. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 pm

Next ETEC meeting will be at 7:30pm, Thursday, March 12, 2009