

**Minutes of the Parks & Environment Advisory Board
Meeting October 4th, 2017 at the Canale Training Center**

In attendance:

Officers Present - Bill Reinert – Chairman, Mike Hogan – Vice Chairman

Members Present - Jill Miles, Dick Colby, James Galvin, , Elmer Ripley, Ken Sooy

Members Absent - Steve Fiedler

Freeholder Representative – Alex Marino – present

County Staff - Greg Brookins, D.H.P.W - present

Secretary - Eric Husta – C.P.S. - present

A motion was made to accept the minutes from our September meeting by Dick Colby. Jill Miles seconded the motion.

Discussion topics:

Bill Reinert discussed the County's update of their Open Space and Recreation Plan. Mention was also made of the Plein Air art exhibit at ACCC. Bill will also be hosting a talk about the county park system at the gallery as well.

Dick Colby discussed the State's conservation blueprint and provided the group with a brief tour through the State's map on the web at www.njmap2.com. Mention was also made of the need to find a replacement for Michelle Bellinger's spot on the board. Bill said he would reach out to the ACUA for a recommendation. Alex Marino said he would do the same. Dick also discussed senior citizen opportunities for recreation in the County. Discussion was also had regarding the present state and future of strip malls in the County. He and Mike Hogan also mentioned working on a list of invasive plants for Atlantic County as well. Finally, Dick summarized his tour of the Stephens Creek area and the upcoming talk on the history of Seabrook Farms at the EHT community center on 10/5 at 7 PM.

Elmer Ripley mentioned the historical marker referencing the Wheaton boat works in Gaskill Park needs to be refinished or repainted. He also discussed the change in speed limit on Old Egg Harbor Road in Mays Landing.

Ken Sooy requested updates on the Motts Creek bulkhead project from Greg Brookins. Bids are expected shortly.

Jill Miles noted there were two horses identified with EEE and a few more West Nile Virus cases as well. Considerable discussion was had regarding the substantial sewage leak from the ACUA sewage line. Jill also mentioned some upcoming mosquito spraying.

Greg Brookins provided an update on both aerial and ground spraying for mosquitos as well.

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Eric Husta provided status updates for several park projects including expansion of the Veterans Cemetery and picnic area 2 in Estell Manor Park. He also mentioned the expansion of the Lake Lenape West campground, Lake Lenape Park Phase III work and the new shelter roof at Oscar E. McClinton Park.

Mike Hogan talked about the erosion problems occurring in Wharton State Forest as well as his participation in 300+ vernal pond surveys for the Pinelands Commission. Mention was also made of a lecture by Emile Devito on October 16th at Stockton University at 7 PM on Pickering's Morning Glory populations.

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:24 PM.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, November 1st, at 7 PM at the Canale Training Center in Egg Harbor Township.

cc: Dennis Levinson, County Executive
Jerry DelRosso, County Administrator
Diana Rutala, Dep. County Administrator
Frank D. Formica, Chairman - Board of Freeholders
Alex Marino, Board of Freeholders – PEAB Representative
Greg Brookins, Dept. Head Public Works
All Advisory Board Members