

Highland Park Environmental Commission
Meeting of January 21, 2009
Minutes

Present: Steve Barnes, Michael Rosenberg, Allan Williams, Councilman Jon Erickson

Absent: Jonathan Abrahams, Joan Ehrenfeld, Gabor Grunstein, Arnold Henderson

Guest: Vicky Zarra, Jim Zarra

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:15 PM in the Environmental Education Center.
2. The minutes of the December 19, 2008 meeting were reviewed and approved.
3. The calendar of meeting dates for 2009 was distributed.
4. There was no correspondence.
5. Site Plans reviewed:

- a. Alan and Lauren Maza
43 Cliff Court
Docket Z08-11
Block 2, Lot 3

This application to the Zoning Board is for a variance for a side yard setback. The applicant is doing major renovations to an existing single family home.

Comments: The applicant should be careful to minimize erosion at the top edge of the cliff in the back yard. The applicant should also be aware of the easements that run along the river at the base of the cliff.

6. Steve and Allan prepared a draft list of 2009 goals for the Environmental Commission. The goals were reviewed at length and Mike will consolidate the list for the next meeting.
7. Old Business
 - a. Environmental Education Center – No news regarding proposed capping of contaminated soil or for the request to NJDEP for permit modification for previously approved upland waterfront development. The request is required to complete remedial activities proposed under the Remedial Action Work Plan that was submitted in September. The Edison Wetlands Association donated \$5,000 for solar panels at the center. Is there anything that can be done with this money at the present time or do we need to wait for additional funds to begin the solar project?

- b. Meadows Project – The final report must be submitted to the State by the end of January. Signs were purchased in December. Woodchips for the trail have been stockpiled for future application. Signs including a message board, 3 large signs and 10 small signs need to be installed.
- c. Community Wildlife Habitat Program – Vicky and Jim Zarra obtained a \$1,800 grant and are working on a wildlife habitat project at Irving School. The project includes a community garden. Details are still being planned. Loren Muldowney will evaluate the soil condition.

8. New Business

- a. The Commission is still looking for new members. We should all try to find interested individuals.

9. The meeting adjourned at 9:55 PM. The next meeting will be on Wednesday February 18, 2009 at 8:00 PM.