

Highland Park Environmental Commission
Meeting of June 17, 2009
Minutes

Present: Jonathan Abrahams, Steve Barnes, Joshua Fine, Michael Rosenberg, Allan Williams, Councilman Jon Erickson

Absent: Joan Ehrenfeld, Gabor Grunstein

Guest: Arnold Henderson

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:15 PM in the Environmental Education Center.
2. The minutes of the May 20, 2009 meeting were reviewed and approved.
3. Membership – Kristen Ross has been appointed as a new member of the Environmental Commission.
4. No correspondence
5. No new site plans to review.
6. Old Business
 - a. Zoning of Highland Park Meadows - The Master Plan Review Committee will start meeting soon. The Environmental Commission wants to communicate our recommendations regarding the conservation zoning of The Meadows upper and lower portions as well as the contiguous municipally owned lots.
 - b. Environmental Education Center – The water fountain still needs repair. DPW is waiting for a replacement part. The Department of Community Services is working on a policy for use of Borough owned buildings by outside groups. The new policy will include the Environmental Education Center. If the Environmental Commission or STAC cosponsors a meeting with an outside group and we have a member present to oversee the activity, that would be acceptable.
 - c. Meadows Project – Weekly trail inspections as part of the Post Project Management Plan are continuing. Everyone please follow the schedule and submit your reports to Steve to ensure that the trail is maintained in a safe and useable condition. The large message board is in place and being used . The balance of the signage (3 large and 10 small signs) will be installed by DPW during the summer. DPW has 2 purchase orders for ordering \$1,000 worth of herbaceous plants and \$400 worth of other forestry supplies. Also still considering looking at 600 feet of 7 foot high deer fencing. A Weedbusters event to remove invasive species is being planned for the near future.

- d. Community Wildlife Habitat Program – Mary Denver is working on getting The Meadows and Irving School certified as wildlife habitats.

7. New Business

- a. The Highland Park Conservative Temple adopted a section of River Road and on Sunday June 14, completed a roadway cleanup.
- b. Starting in July, DPW will have bulk waste pickups once per month.
- c. Local flood plain maps have been updated by FEMA.

8. The meeting adjourned at 10:15 PM. The next meeting will be on Wednesday July 15, 2009 at 8:00 PM.