

**Highland Park Environmental Commission**  
Meeting of July 3, 2013  
Minutes

Present: Michael Rosenberg, Steve Barnes, Laurel Kornfeld, Karen Swaine

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:10 PM.
2. The minutes of the June 5, 2013 meeting were approved.
3. Correspondence: None
4. Site Plans: None
5. Old Business
  - a) Pulte/The Crossing at Highland Park/Honeywell Property. Pulte submitted an updated plan, including a Stormwater Management Plan. They satisfactorily answered all of our environmental questions, including those about site remediation. They noted they will build a detention basin surrounded by a fence. All of this will be recorded in the minutes of the Planning Board. Alan reported that the revised plans are based on previous discussions with Pulte. An RAO has been issued by the DEP for the Honeywell property, indicating no further action on site remediation is needed. The Planning Board approved the application with several conditions. Because this is a litigation settlement, there will be a development agreement between the borough and Pulte.
  - b) Rezoning of Kaplan Property. A new zone, RMT-H, allowing residential multi-family townhouses, has been adopted for this property. It allows buildings up to seven stories. The Planning Board had recommended three to seven stories. Having the taller structures means there will be fewer buildings and more open space. Allan and Steve will review any plans that come in, with a specific focus on how they affect Buell Brook and the steep slopes on the site.
  - c) Buck Woods/Upper Meadows/Land Swap/Redevelopment. The Borough Council sent a resolution to the Planning Board asking the board to evaluate the two properties for development. The Environmental Commission believes two lots, 42 and 55, should be excluded from the proposal because they are near the bike path, and there is also an intermittent stream located there.
  - d) Meadows Trail Update. The last of the supplies we purchased are in. We bought more tools and signage equipment from Jack's Hardware. A lawn mower, shed and wood have been delivered, leaving a total of \$130 from the grant. The final report on the grant will be sent to DEP when we receive the vouchers from Jack's Hardware. Allan and Steve are working on the final report. They also started putting the 8 X 10 foot shed together. It is large enough to store all our equipment plus equipment belonging to STAC and tools

used for the Native Plant Reserve. We have not yet come up with ideas for long-term management of the trail

6. New Business

- a) Walking Tour of Meadows. The Mayor's Wellness Committee is sponsoring a walking tour of the Meadows on July 23 from 6:30-7:30 PM. We need to resurface some portions of the trail with wood chips and also spruce up the trail to make it look inviting. The grant requires the trail be four to six feet wide with a two-foot margin on each side unless a tree or boardwalk are present. Allan and Steve will discuss ideas to beautify the Meadows in time for the walk.
- b) ANJEC Workshop in Highland Park. ANJEC is hosting a workshop in Highland Park at the Senior/Youth Center on Monday, September 16. The space has been reserved. The workshop will focus on ways environmental commissions can be more effective. ANJEC presenters will look to commissions from around the state to present case studies on specific projects they are doing. There will be several presentations. Mike noted that the issue of the Meadows trail and maintenance are good topics for this workshop. Since we are hosting it, we can attend for free and send as many people as we choose. More information will be forthcoming.

7. The meeting adjourned at 9:12 PM. We will not meet in August. The next meeting of the Environmental Commission will be a joint meeting with the Shade Tree Advisory Committee (STAC) on Wednesday, September 11 at 8 PM in the Environmental Education Center.