

Highland Park Environmental Commission
Meeting of March 5, 2025
Minutes

Present: Michael Rosenberg, Jonathan Abrahams, Mark Lesko, Karen Swaine, Allan Williams,
Council liaison Matthew Hersh

Guest: Councilman Philip George

Note: Steve Barnes has resigned from the commission and we thank him for his service

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM.
2. The minutes of the February 5, 2025, meeting were approved.
3. Correspondence: None
4. New Site Plan: 219 Hilton Street – Proposed lot subdivision and construction of new 2-family house - 2 variances requested
STAC already submitted comments in February pertaining to potential tree removal and replacement planting. No additional comments.
5. Old Business
 - a) Meadows Update. A couple of trees fell during a recent winter storm. The trail volunteers have since removed them. Now the trail crew is waiting until spring to conduct additional improvements.
 - b) Neonicotinoids. No new information to report. Matt is following up.
 - c) Riverfront Greenway – Nothing new to report. We would like to hear from the consultant about progress and next steps.
 - d) EC Website - Allan reported that some upgrades are in process.
 - e) Leaf blower ordinance – The task force met earlier tonight. A public meeting is now scheduled for March 20, from 7-9 PM at the Highland Park Public Library. The purpose of the meeting is to disseminate information and to solicit public input.
 - f) Community Solar – The Borough is finalizing a contract with Solar Landscape
 - g) Cleanups – No recent cleanups due to the winter weather. Will restart again when the weather improves.
 - h) Invasive Species Act – We are continuing to following this issue. Reviewed Edison’s new bamboo ordinance
 - i) Parking at the Environmental Education Center – A chain was put up to restrict parking
 - j) Earth Day will be celebrated in Highland Park on Sunday May 4, in conjunction with the Street Fair. We will not have our own table this year but we can coordinate with Sustainable Highland Park.
6. New Business
 - a) Discussed possibly naming the meadows trail
7. The meeting adjourned at 8:51 PM. The next meeting of the Environmental Commission will be on Wednesday, April 2 at 8 PM