

accept an Appreciation certificate from the Township Committee for the HEC's volunteering in the community. Com. Pobega, Com. Eng and Com. Dente said they would be attending the meeting.

Earth Day – April 26, 2014 – 10am

Earth Day had to be cancelled due to prior commitment of the various groups that usually attend. Chair. Cullen suggested starting preparations earlier for next years' event. He would like to expand and add other activities for the children. We will continue to discuss this topic. The Boy Scouts will plant the trees that were purchased for Earth Day.

Memorial Day Service – May 26, 2014

Com. Ledja said she will purchase a shrub and she will be attending the service. Chair Cullen said he will also attend.

UPDATES:

Natco Sub-Committee –Com. Ledja, Com. Dente

Com. Dente spoke to Cedrick Johnson from IFF. They have to plant approximately 200 trees to replace trees that were removed and they would like the assistance of the HEC with planting some trees and deciding where the trees should go. Com. Dente would like to request that some of the trees be planted behind the cement wall along Rt. 36. It would look nicer. Com. Dente said IFF might be willing to donate towards buying items for Hazlet Day. A letter on HEC letterhead would need to be submitted.

Com. Ledja walked up the hill behind Lillian Dr. School and that area needs cleaning. Chair Cullen said the Peepers Walk was very successful with many people attending and lots of peepers to see. The kids had a great time.

Com. Dente contacted Karen O'Neil, a teacher from Rutgers University. After a lengthy conversation he asked her if she would be willing to do a study and analyze the water in Natco Lake for a community/student project. She said she would look into it and get back to him. He will update us when he hears back from her. She sounded like she would do it.

Land Use Board – Mayor DiNardo

Com. Pobega – May 15th the people are coming in from the Academy that purchased the old West Keansburg School on Laurel Ave. They would like to expand the application to make the school a sleep over school.

Open Space Advisory Council- V. Chair. Bucci

Com. Eng – We have decided to go forward and look into the marina property. We have requested from NJDEP through OPRA documents on the Marina Property. There are hundreds of pages of data on that property to read through. It will take 4-5 weeks to get the copies of this data. There is a Summary Judgment against the owner of the Waackaack property. Com. Pobega – we had a signed contract but they reneged. We should see some progress on this in the next 60 days. Com. Eng – V. Chair. Bucci and I attended a meeting on The Master Plan with Monmouth County Planning Board and the Monmouth County Environmental Council. Discussed: – at the monthly meeting they are looking for “unique properties” to be nominated. Natco Park and Waackaack Creek greenway should be nominated.

Bayshore Regional Watershed Council –Com. Geer

Com. Geer was absent. Com. Dente – May 15 and 28 is horseshoe tagging, last Thursday was instruction on tagging.

Recreation –

Summer Camp sign-ups are being accepted

Hazlet Township website update –

Facebook update- V. Chair. Bucci

V. Chair Bucci was absent

OLD BUSINESS:

Peepers Walk – April 12, 2014

Chair Cullen – we had a good turn out and it was a fun night, lots of peepers out

Pledge not to use plastic water bottles –

Com. Dente – IFF could donate to purchase environmentally friendly water bottles

2014 Budget

ANJAC dues – \$360.00

Earth Day – \$220.00

Citizen Hearing:

Ron Cucchiaro, the Township Attorney, discussed new policies that the Township has adopted regarding economic development and homeowner improvements to

their properties. The Township Committee has engaged in adopting policies that encourage development without sacrificing the environment for retables. One ordinance will encourage home owners to improve their property by giving them a five year tax exemption on these improvements. The Township Committee would like to create a partnership with the Hazlet Environmental Commission to being a Composing Program. The Governing Body would like to access HEC's skill and expertise to educate residents on the importance of recycling through composting. Com. Ledja – She used to teach composting behind the old Environmental building where the composters were kept. Mr. Cucchiaro – We would like you to give direction to the residents and teach them why they should use composters and how to use them. Chair. Cullen – how can we get to the people? ANJAC runs Road Shows to educate. Sustainable New Jersey could also help out. Com. Paraskevas – suggested a recycling fair on how to use the composters. Com. Pobega – We could have a road show in the next couple of months, or we could use this as our theme for Hazlet Day. Com. Ledja – we have the composters as a “give away” at the Hazlet Day Fair. Com. Eng – can reach out to Mary Waters, from Rutgers. She could educate the HEC first. Mr. Cucchiaro – we could look into low cost evaluations from BPU to save energy for businesses and residential. Chair. Cullen – residents could save money and help the environment. Com. Paraskevas – we could have the recycling fair to teach children or have classes before Hazlet Day. Chair. Cullen asked Com. Eng to contact someone from ANJAC to get adequate speakers for a road show. We will need to advertise, maybe send out notices to various groups, maybe send a “save the date” to Boy/Girl Scouts, Brookdale Environmental, High School groups. Com. Eng – we may need a workshop in between regular meetings.

Bill Shewan – Mason Dr. Hazlet

Discussed: Recreation Commission will be abolished and become a committee. Natco Lake Park would be under the direction of Recreation. Mr. Shewan suggested at least one HEC Commissioner should be on the board. Com. Pobega – we should also add an Open Space representative to the board. Mr. Shewan is in favor of this change. Also discussed the Master Plan – Unique properties can be private property. He agreed with Natco, Waackaack Creek, and added Stone Rd Meadows. HEC should submit these properties.

Motion to close citizens hearing:

Offered –Com. Pobega

2nd- Alt. Com. Paraskevas

Voice Vote: Yes

Motion to Adjourn:

Offered – Com. Pobega

2nd Com. Ledja

Voice Vote: Yes

Meeting adjourned at 9:40

Next Meeting: June 9, 2014 – 8PM