

Montvale EC Meeting Minutes

06/18/2018 (7:45pm)

(Handed out volunteer umbrellas from the Mayor)

Minutes prepared by Carly De La Hoz

Roll Call:

Daniel Eichhorn, Chairman Robert Hanrahan, Mairead Jensen (A), Richard Johnson (A), Melinda Kelly (A), Randall Preston, Lisa Skoglund (A), Planning Board Liaison/Member Annmarie Russo (A), Council Liaison Dieter Koelling

Approval of Minutes: Randy approved, Dan seconded

Meeting Open to Public / Closed to Public

COMMUNICATION / CORRESPONDENCE:

Suez Letter from Robert Hanrahan to Mr. Mark McKoy RE: intermunicipal trail route

- there was an article in the paper
- Interest in trail, about a mile, working with NY/NJ trail conference - thoughts to connect this with the Hillsdale trail interest
- 5 mayors came to an agreement with Suez
- Deborah Vale (mentioned in the article) - Bob reached out to her
- Randall - recalls someone came into a meeting (possibly with Andy Hippolit - who had questions about crossing at the pond)
- Discussion with Andy and Suez about a way to cross Grand Ave
 - Andy said we were done: we already designated a path to cross
 - But what about safety concerns? Pedestrian lights: they are off, black/dark most of the time, and only turn on when crossing (\$5k-8k)
 - If we budget for that, that could be installed
- Bob reached out to Deborah Vale (she was not privy to the article)
 - The agreement was based around security and anti-terrorism dumping into our drinking water
 - Agreement to put cameras where someone may dump
 - And then access gates, you would need to register to get access for using the trail
 - She said timing may not be great because there is large population at Suez that does not want this to happen
 - Montvale does not own Suez property
 - Suez 60% of their outreach money on environmental initiatives
 - Bob sent her our slides - no response
- Bob called the local office and spoke with engineering (Emad Sidhom)
 - If we are going to terminate at your trail, it wouldn't hurt to send you our plans
 - He said to send letter to him and his boss (McKoy, VP of Engineering of NJ)

- “Provide educational information at the trailhead to help ensure ongoing protection and monitoring of all the waterways as well as the wetlands in our community.”
- Potentially recognize Suez as a partner

Check Valve:

- we just need the part number for the valve in order to price it
- The head of the Bergen County DPW (Mr. Dressler) said he can handle it if we provide him with the part and direction from engineering - DPW would install no charge because waterway, mosquitoes
 - Clean the pipe, the inlet
 - Would install the check valve (when they know what it is)
 - They would bring the Bergen County mosquito control people in (stock the minnows, etc.)
 - Andy said he would call Ray and discuss it

NEW BUSINESS:

Activities List:

- Dan: storm water management
- Lisa and Rich: ERI
- Randy: center of town
- Melinda: inter-municipal trail

Electric Car Webinar, ANJEC:

- it was recorded, and Bob will send the recording to the EC

Sustainability Meeting, ANJEC:

- Thursday, June 21 at the College of New Jersey
- SOLD OUT

OLD BUSINESS:

Street Fair:

- Mairead first shift, then Dan the last two hours
- Dan spoke with half a dozen people about the tree ordinance and other EC items
- People are very interested in what is going on in the town
- It would be good if we had other opportunities for outreach

Outreach:

- Mayor's newsletter
- Blurb in the local paper, Pascack Press
- Anyone is welcome to write up a little blurb on any of these topics
- Huff Pond, trail, etc.

Tree Ordinance:

- Mr. Fetty (sp?) put together this form in support of the ordinance
- Form says: "in connection with Planning Board Zoning Board application, or construction permit application" —> that is the only time they would be asked to fill this out
- Side yard, etc., minimums needs some clarification - Bob will recommend they remove that (confusing)

Meeting with the Mayor - Center of Town:

- Bob went a couple weeks ago with Mairead
- Gave a summary of the situation at the center of town (where we came from and where we are at today)
- The money spent was just maintenance to bring it up to a state where it wasn't hazardous
- Bill Koenig put a proposal together - drawings, accurate with what is there today, what needs to be removed to bring it up to a landscape architect level (\$80k)
- Emphasized the point where we need ongoing maintenance
- Decision needs to be made, do you really want to do the work to bring it up to a state of well-maintained look with new trees and shrubs
- Drawing shows installation of lots of new foliage
- Councilman thought this was far too much foliage
- Bob - without a description from a landscape architect, we don't know when things are blooming; could be seasonal; may not be as much as it appears in the 2D drawing
- The Mayor has this on a list of EC items to take care of
- **Need a subcommittee to look at the bigger picture**
 - What is the plan for the train station?
 - Ideas to consolidate Park Ridge and Montvale - move the station to the old Pontiac Vale property

Plastic Bag Ordinance:

- Park Ridge just outlawed the use of plastic bags
- Westwood, Hillsdale, Woodcliff Lake already had this ordinance in place
 - Came out of EC initiative
- **EC: let's put feelers out there to see what the consensus is**
- Can we get Wegmans on board?
- Shop Rite had a discount at one point for each reusable bag used

Pool Property:

- Questionnaire to go out to residents
- Questions will include Use of the Swim Club property
- EC put together some questions

Land Conservancy of NJ:

- community gardens

- Bob will keep EC in the loop - going to look at other community gardens in the Bergen County area
- Bob has a PowerPoint
- Pay a certain amount per year (example \$50/year/plot, plus 10 hours service)
- Dieter to bring this up at the next televised meeting

Provided and documented to councilman Weaver - EC's recommendations

- 1) Trail
- 2) Community Gardens
- 3) Pavilion
- 4) Dog Park

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to Close the Meeting: Randy motioned, Dan seconded