

Environmental Commission Minutes

Town of Belvidere

Warren County, New Jersey

April 26, 2018

Tammy Koop opened the meeting of the Belvidere Environmental Commission at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance and read the following notice in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act: In accordance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, notice of this meeting was given by way of notice filed with the Star Gazette and/or the Express-Times, filed in the Municipal Clerk's Office and posted in the Belvidere Town Hall, 691 Water Street, Belvidere, NJ.

Roll Call:

Present: Patricia Butler, Carolyn Cerbone, Tammy Koop, Elizabeth Merring, Calvin Thompson

Absent: Andreas Eisenberger, Justin Lutz

Other attendees: Walt Tutka, Council Liaison

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Patricia Butler seconded by Carolyn Cerbone and carried to adopt the March 22, 2018 meeting minutes.

Previous Business:

Carolyn Cerbone will make fliers and include survey for BEC logo contest for Belvidere HS students. Walt Tutka will drop off 100 copies at HS front desk. June 1st deadline was proposed. Calvin Thompson created Facebook page for BEC. All Commission members are admins. There has been a lot of people joining, not just local, also out of state. Discussion to adding survey questions on interest in joining the FB page, quality of members over number of members.

Discussion on survey results from Earth Day Celebration. Patricia Butler interested at results that environmental education and clean water were the most important. Carolyn Cerbone suggested two environmental education sessions a year at Community Center at Belvidere.

Walt Tutka suggested having survey on BEC logo contest paperwork.

Carolyn Cerbone contacted Representative Josh Gottheimer's team about Highland Council and was informed that there is no plan to push initiative at this time.

Town Trash Haulers were discussed. Possible add their recycling information to BEC portion of Town Web Page. Waste Management/LMR/Sanico all have information available on line.

Sanico offers recycling center at their facility. Plastic shopping bags can be taken to ShopRite for recycling, hopefully they are recycling them. Milk in glass bottles instead of plastic is available at ShopRite. Discussion on plastic bag receptacle in town. Tammy Koop brought up Trex. They have a promotion and provide receptacles for collection. All members in favor of moving forward on project. Tammy Koop will arrange meeting with Kathie Luton to discuss the Trex Promotion.

Discussion on the numerous trash haulers in town and the wear and tear on roads, emissions and noise. Discussion on residents using County Dump for trash and recycling, encourage residents to use one carrier, possibly contact carriers and encourage staggered pickups or every two weeks. Town sponsored trash, Walt Tutka advised the costs would outweigh the benefit. Add trash/recycling collection to survey.

Look into having various recycling containers in town, ie battery, printer cartridges, tvs, computers. Arrange electronic collecting event, DPW has annual event, landfill has events and many people attend.

Discussion on organizing a Clean Communities trash pickup.

ANJEC membership is not completed yet. Contact information was given and members should start receiving newsletter. A training should be scheduled in Hunterdon Cty in the near future. Belvidere EC had previously registered at Sustainable Jersey. Tammy Koop is working on getting access to the site.

Third St School was listed as certified on Safe Routes to School website. Trying to reach person at school who would information on this.

Community Center at Belvidere can hold 25/30 people downstairs for lectures/speakers. They are interested in joint events with BEC.

DSM still has not responded to emails about CAP. We will continue to reach out to them.

New Business:

Discussion on having a table at National Night Out in August. All agreed to participate. Brainstormed ideas, Carolyn Cerbone suggested household battery collection, printers cartridges etc. Will need to find a location to properly dispose of collected items.

Belvidere Ambulance Corp will hold summer market on Saturdays, May 12-Aug 25th.

Discussion on participation, Betty Merring feels it would be good promotion and suggests once a month attendance. Space is 10'X10", cost of \$10. Will see if town would cover cost.

Tammy Koop will be meeting with Town Engineer to see where we can help out with stormwater management.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment at this time.

A motion was made by Elizabeth Merring, seconded by Carolyn Cerbone and carried to adjourn the meeting of the BEC..

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Koop

Belvidere Environmental Commission Chair