

Environmental Commission of Atlantic Highlands (AHEC)

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 20, 2016 – 7:30 PM

Attendees:

James Krauss, Chair (JK) Wanda Kelley (WK) Michael Curry (MC) Donald Gates (DG)
France Karras (FK) Jane Austin (JA) Peter Doyle (PD)

Members of the public attending and participating in discussion:

Larry Goldberg, 85 South Avenue
Mark Fisher, 91 Third Avenue

Minutes

November 15, 2016 minutes were reviewed and approved with minor corrections. JK abstained

Lenape Woods Trail Maintenance

MC reported that the fallen trees were removed from trails by borough employees. He recommended that the Meadowlands Trail and Gawen Road entrance be cleared in the Spring.

Army Corps Study - Many Mind Creek

JK reported on the Draft Alternatives Analysis dated November 23, 2016. Six alternatives were presented by the engineers providing protection at various levels from minor flooding through 15 foot storm surges. A conference call was held on December 5th. The Army Corps recommended that the study proceed with examination of three alternatives. The lowest level would protect against "fluvial flooding due to low intensity rain events during high tide conditions," primarily by the use of flapgates on stormwater outfalls. A mid-level alternative would provide protection to an elevation of 8 feet by building a dune at Avenue A and installing a floodgate on the creek. The third alternative would provide protection to 13 feet and would include a dune at Avenue A, a 640 foot floodwall and four floodgates.

USGS Study

WK, JA and DG reported on the December 6 presentation by the United States Geological Survey ongoing project monitoring landslide and slump potential in the hill section of the borough.

BESCCH Report

JK reported on the Building Ecological Solutions to Coastal Community Hazards (BESCCH) report. This report was the result of a multi-jurisdictional meeting and Bayshore Trail tour on March 3, 2016. The report reinforced concerns about stormwater control, saturation on the upper slope of the hill, poor drainage at the toe of the slope, inadequate vegetation and storm driven waves.

Permit Applications

The Borough has applied for a permit to reconstruct the bulkhead at the north end of Avenue D on Sandy Hook Bay.

Parking

The proposed "residents only" ordinance to restrict parking on Second Avenue was discussed. This led to a further discussion of the expected increased demand for parking by residents of the apartment buildings being constructed on First Avenue, as well as the ordinance permitting the municipal lot to be used to fulfill parking requirements for new construction.

Meeting Adjourned.