

Minutes of April 11, 2019 Meeting of the Tenafly Environmental Commission

Borough Hall
Adopted on May 16, 2019

In Attendance - Chairman Jon Warms, Daniel Parks, DPW Bob Culvert, Alternate Chair Olga Milanos, Zina Spezakis, Secretary John Purdy, Nina Seiden, and Gina Weinstein. Visitor Laura Zaks

All meetings are on a Thursday and start at 8:00 PM in the Borough Hall Conference Room. Green Team meetings start 30 minutes prior to this meeting.

Adoption of 3/2018 Minutes – Adopted.

Green Team Report – Earth Fair will be April 27th in TMS parking lot. 71 vendors signed up, if rain, move into building. Music all day, Indian dancers, food and coffee trucks.

Council Liaison Report – Rose garden has a \$100K grant given by a resident in his will, town found a rosarian who will donate his time. For \$80/rose will buy \$20K of roses to plant. Need to check if irrigation system is repairable. Garden Club has 30 members but feel the town has not supported them, e.g. the greenhouse is inoperable. Martin Gilmore maintains it but with inoperable thermostat the plants died this winter. No borough event will allow helium filled balloons. Signed 5-year contract for rear yard pickup garbage but budgeted money for 90-gallon recycling bins.

Styrofoam Recycling – Zina discussed common trucks for polystyrene trucks for multiple towns to go to Springfield. Englewood is doing. May need monitor to make sure the waste stream is clean. Teaneck is accepting Styrofoam at their recycling center.

Styrofoam and Plastic Bags – Bill in NJ Senate to ban, tabled for now.

Correspondence

4th grade teacher at Smith wants to know how they can help.

Request people not to use Roundup. Motion to ask council attorney how to ban.

Other

CAP committee – drug and alcohol awareness

Plots available in community garden.

TEC position on plastic bags, Teaneck stopped enforcing ban on plastic bags based on state tabling issue. TEC should recommend merchants charge 10 cents for plastic bags. Plastic straws should be banned. Add blurb to newsletter to encourage biodegradable garbage bags? Maybe electric cars?

Next meeting May 16, 2019

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM