

**Emerson Environmental Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 23, 2015**

The meeting of the Borough of Emerson Environmental Commission was brought to order by Chairman Tom Browne, promptly at 7:30pm. The Chairman read the Open Public Meeting Statement, then requested the Secretary, Joan Dondero, to call the roll.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Chairman Tom Browne, Vice Chair Margaret Boyce, Karen Browne, Pat Dinallo, Michael Griggs, Jeanine Lamatina, Tom Sudano

Also Present: Boy Scout Thomas Ross, Troup 67, and Secretary Joan Dondero

Absent: Stephanie Clark

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to Approve the Minutes of August 26, 2015 by Mr. Griggs; seconded by Ms. Browne.

Ayes: Others. Abstain: VC Boyce, Ms. Dinallo, Mr. Sudano. Nays: None. Motion carries.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Motion to Open the Meeting to the Public by Ms. Lamatina; seconded by Mr. Griggs.

Ayes: All Others. Abstain: None. Nays: None. Motion carries.

No one in the public was present to come forward; the meeting was closed to the public.

Motion to Close the Meeting to the Public by Ms. Browne; seconded by Ms. Dinallo.

Ayes: All Others. Abstain: None. Nays: None. Motion carries.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mail and announcements are scanned, or emailed to Chairs, Members, and Liaisons. Brochures and Agendas are handed out at the meeting.

OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Ms. Clark, who is absent from tonight's meeting, is handling the Harvest Festival at Emerson High School for Sunday, October 16, 2016.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman Tom Browne presented a resolution to the Commission: **(see Exhibit A)** Resolution for water usage regulation and education.

Chairman Tom asked for a roll call. Moved: Ms. Browne; Seconded Ms. Lamatina

Ayes: Mr. Browne, Ms. Boyce, Ms. Dinallo, Mr. Griggs, Mr. Sudano

The meeting proceeded with other New Business on the Agenda.

Pictures of trellises were shown; brochures were discussed on how to make/build trellises. The Commission's guest, Boy Scout Thomas Ross, Troup 67, introduced himself and came up with ideas, and suggestions, about improving Emerson Woods. Benches are needed. Trail markers are necessary all over the place, and can be a spring project for (1) one person. More plantings are desirable, and the Boy Scouts involvement would be a big help.

The trails need to be labeled with the species of trees, plants, flowers. They're (3) three trails: (1) one long, (2) loops by United Water.... (a) goes along the catch basin; (b) goes to the sewage trail. The Shade Tree Commission gave out trail maps. It was announced to include Shade Tree Commission, and tell them what Environmental Commission is doing. Mr. Ross mentioned wooden benches. Vice Chair Boyce and Ms. Browne, spoke about taking logs from fallen trees. There's a possibility that someone could donate their skills cutting up the logs. Vice Chair Boyce said to look into wood-working shop at the high school. Mr. Sudano wants to find out the distance of the trails.

After discussing, and voting on the attached Resolution No. 2-2015, the Commission agreed that it was necessary to water the fields at the high school for safety purposes.

Vice Chair Boyce expressed concern for the Emerson Woods survey. Cut the trees and remove carefully, or a disaster area could be made. She said that Bruce Miele of Bergen SWAN should be contacted.

A date was made for:

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2015 at 10:00am – 11:30am

For Survey and Clean-up at the Memorial Garden - Butterfly Garden in Centennial Park on Main Street.

Mr. Salles, the student liaison of the EEC, and VP of the Key Club at Emerson High School, will bring up the clean-up date at the September 24, 2015 Key Club meeting. It was advised that the crew bring shovels. No extra rocks are wanted. A careful watch-out for signs and downed wires. The DPW will pick up the garbage.

The United Water is selling a beautiful piece of property, and relocating to Paramus.

Ms. Browne questioned why we can't have a reversal of 911.

Vice Chair Boyce's 2016 "Media That Matters" Film Series, Saturday films at the library were furnished. **(see Exhibit B)**

Earth Day will be discussed at a future date.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting by Ms. Dinallo; seconded by Ms. Boyce.

Ayes: All Others. Abstain: None. Nays: None. Motion carries.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will take place:

WEDNESDAY, **OCTOBER 28, 2015** at 7:30pm, in the Council Chambers

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Dondero, Secretary
Emerson Environmental Commission