

Englewood Environmental Commission

Agenda for Monday February 13, 2023

via Zoom Virtual Meeting, 7:15pm

- Meeting called to order by Chair Crystal Brown at 7:16 p.m.

- Roll Call:

Present: Crystal Brown, Jack Silberstein, Danielle Nyman, June Gregg, Reema Martel, Mary Truesdale, Judith Maron, Steve Wiessner, Michael Passow; abs. Eda Greenbaum, Max Walters.

Minutes of the January 2023 meeting will be discussed next month.

- Communications

Judith Maron joined us. One major issue in the City currently is the death of a young man killed by a policewoman. There may be a grand jury hearing. The new city manager (Mr. Hoffman) has been working on flood plain issues. This involves dredging some water ways. Lisa Wisotsky expressed an interest in what is happening at Crystal Lake.

- Bills and Claims—nothing to report.

Subcommittee Updates

- o Arbor Day (April 28) / Earth Day (April 22) – Danielle, Mary, Crystal & Michael

Danielle, Mary, and Michael met. We will work with the Janis E. Dismus Middle School again this year. There will be a meeting with JEDMS teacher on Feb 24. The committee is also working with arborists. We will invite 'notables.' Reema is planning a week-long event. My Englewood article about coming events—Michael will create and submit this.

- o Policy Recommendations – Jack

Our bees have died off due to a variety of issues (drowned) List of suggestions for actions was sent to the Commissioners, and will be shared with Judith and other Council members

- o Flat Rock Brook – Steve

FRB will be cooperating with EEC on Earth Day events.

Other plans include a June 4 concert and Juneteenth events on June 18.

Summer camp will be recruiting soon.

The old quarry Boardwalk has been demolished and will be replaced over the next few months.

Progress being made on Jones Road renovation—FRB requests a letter of support from the EEC.

Jack asked if Steve had seen any bats going into the bat box, and the response was none lately.

--o Green Team – Crystal

ed Carol Brown made a survey of Cambridge Ave. neighbors – the vast majority are in favor of proposed ‘rails to trails’ and light rail; many concerns were raised about parking by high school students which has been interfering with efficient street cleaning

o Shade Tree - June (& Frantz)

information too often has been shared well after City was informed of requests to cut down trees, City officials need to be sure emails are correct for notification. Landowners need to know that they need to know what the applicable laws are. We may need police to enforce the laws. The City Council is reviewing the tree ordinance.

o Open Space/Community Gardens/Bees -Crystal

EEC will buy more bees. Still trying to get items listed on ROSI.

Michael/Jack move that the Chairs send a letter in (strong) support of the Green Acres grant-- unanimous

• Guest Speaker – will be rescheduled.

Danielle/Martel moved that the EEC will encourage and participate in “caps for a cause” at JEDMS and will pay for one bench on a program to provide a bench and/or community or school enhancement and beautification.

New Business:

1. 2023 Initiatives

- Public Comment -- none
- Motion to adjourn at 8:40.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J Passow

Secretary