

WESTWOOD ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Date: April 20, 2015

Opening

Meeting called to order 7:30 pm by Peter Grefrath, Liaison

“This meeting, which conforms to the OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW, CHAPTER 231, PUBLIC LAWS OF 1975, is a regular Environmental Committee meeting. Notices have been filed with our local official newspapers and posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board”

Roll Call		
	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Michael Waugh, President	X	
Boniface Kiamue, Secretary	X	
Peter Grefrath	X	
Christine Blaney	X	
Wihlem Wang	X	
Heidi Sandiford	X	
Joseph Helmy		X

Public Forum:

Mayor John Birkner attended with Mrs. Bonnie Eskenazi, Managing Director of The Deirdre Imus Environmental Health Center at HUMC. The mayor introduced Mrs. Eskenazi as a prospective partner of the farmer’s market initiative in the Borough. How our partnership would work was discussed and several scenarios of a partnership were suggested. Mrs. Eskenazi would revisit with us to share more light on how HUMC could work alongside the Borough in supporting a Farmer’s Market.

The mayor shared his interest and support for the Farmer’s market and was waiting to receive preparatory information from the committee to prepare him in presenting the initiative to the council for their support and approval.

At the end, to begin the process, a temporary meeting was planned prior to our next committee meeting to discuss with Mr. Joseph Abou-Daoud, president of the Borough Chamber of commerce and Mrs. Katherine Friese, who is the organizer of the farmer’s market in Closter.

Passing of the Minutes

March 16thth. Meeting minutes needed few modifications.

Christine move and was seconded by Grefrath to accept minutes of February 15th.

Council liaison report

No report

Old Business

Community Garden – Tentative opening of garden on April 22nd and that information / or flyers will be available at borough hall.

Farmer’s market:

Mr. Joseph Abou-Daoud, was in attendance to discuss the Chamber’s role in the Farmer’s market. The chamber primary objective was to drive the farmer’s market to raise scholarships for needed students within the Borough. The Committee was also informed about earlier preparations that had occurred to start the market and why it was never initiated. This time, Mr. Abou-Daoud suggested the scale of the market should be as large as possible, inviting more farmers would raise its profile. This discussion defining the size would continue.

Location: The location suggested would be across the municipal parking and the date to be every Saturdays. The committee thought it best to further study the size, location and date in addition to licenses and city ordinances that would have to be in place prior to opening the market.

Rain Garden: Tentative or suggested site of the rain garden would be Brookside Elementary School. Another location would be the grounds of the library.

Rutgers will assist committee to come up with one. Location needs to be identify.

Composite Bin: Heidi will research cost of the bin and how committee can decide how this can be can be Continue discussing the introduction of composite bin to the Borough and how the committee may decide how and who should pay for the bin.

New Business: Westwood green purchasing policy

- Meeting was adjourned at 8:30.