Minutes of the Parks & Environment Advisory Board Meeting March 3rd, 2021 online via Webex

In attendance:

Officers Present - Bill Reinert - Chairman,

<u>Members Present</u> - Stephen Fielder, Dick Colby, Lisa March, Heather Warburton, Dan Crum

Members Absent - Mike Hogan – Vice Chairman, Ken Sooy

<u>Commissioner Representative</u> – James Bertino - absent

<u>County Staff</u> - Greg Brookins, D.H.P.W. - present

Secretary - Eric Husta – D.D.P.R. – present

Old Business:

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM and Dick Colby motioned to approve the minutes from our February meeting. Dan Crum seconded the motion. Bill Reinert reported on the Pine Barrens Scenic Byway and the fact it has been officially approved by the Highway Administration. He also reported on Mike Hogan doing a planting of swamp pinks in the near future. Discussion was then had on swamp pinks and how their presence is a likely indicator of good water quality.

Roundtable Discussion topics:

Bill Reinert also prompted discussion on the recreation opportunities along the Pinelands Byway and the need for maps. The group also talked about the route and the participating municipalities involved. Mention of charging stations for electric vehicles was made while Steve Fiedler discussed the seedlings available from the Salem Oak (white oak). Each municipality in New Jersey is entitled to seedlings which can be obtained by contacting the New Jersey Division of Parks and Forestry's Forest Tree Nursery.

Dan Crum updated the group on his work at the County Covid clinics and the process of getting appointments for vaccinations.

Lisa March discussed her experience getting an appointment as well as the vaccine.

Heather Warburton mentioned Hammonton's refurbishment of their tower clock and discussed her work on several documentaries being carried by the station, Real Progressive.

Steve Fiedler mentioned Sustainable Jersey's upcoming World Water Day on March 22, 2021. He noted there would be themed speakers on Monday, from 6-7 PM and Tuesday, from 12-1 PM. Discussion was also had on the ownership issues surrounding the Clark's Landing area as well the protection afforded by tree tubes used on newly planted seedlings.

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Eric Husta discussed the park's greenhouse and the seeds and plugs they are currently growing there for use on
various county properties. He also mentioned upgrades to the single track bike trail in Estell Manor Park and
the opening of the fish ladder at Lake Lenape on March 1, 2021.

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Our next meeting is currently scheduled for Wednesday, April 7th, 2021 at 7 PM via WebEx.

cc: Dennis Levinson, County Executive
Jerry DelRosso, County Administrator
Diana Rutala, Deputy County Administrator
Maureen Kern, Chairperson - Board of County Commissioners
James Bertino, Board of County Commissioners – PEAB Representative
Greg Brookins, Department Head Public Works
All Advisory Board Members