

**Minutes of the Parks & Environment Advisory Board
Meeting November 7th, 2018 at the Canale Training Center**

In attendance:

Officers Present - Bill Reinert – Chairman

Members Present - Steve Fiedler, Dick Colby, James Galvin, Jill Miles

Members Absent - Mike Hogan – Vice Chairman, Heather Warburton, Elmer Ripley, Ken Sooy

Freeholder Representative – James Bertino – absent

County Staff - Greg Brookins, D.H.P.W - present

Secretary - Eric Husta – C.P.S. - present

The meeting opened with the flag salute.

Roundtable Discussion topics:

Bill Reinert updated the group on his pursuit of the documentary on oyster farming and the associated costs of the film. He also outlined some of the difficulties faced in reviving the industry locally, including the oyster's susceptibility to disease and some of the possible health hazards in eating them.

Bill also discussed the Pinelands Preservation Alliance photograph exhibit he was part of and commented on the quality of the submissions.

Dick Colby updated the group on his efforts to complete the blue blazed North-South statewide trail.

Steve Fiedler discussed the Smithville conservation lands and the transfer of 944 acres of land from Smithville to Green Acres. He is hopeful the land will be turned over to NJ Fish and Wildlife making some of their lands more contiguous.

Steve also updated the group on his efforts to advance the Friends Along the Mullica group and pump up local "green teams". There was also discussion about the local marshlands in the area and Atlantic White Cedar deaths.

Eric Husta updated the group on the new bathroom bid being put together for picnic area 2 located in Estell Manor Park and the upcoming cemetery expansion project.

Jill Miles mentioned the first positive West Nile Virus case (in Northfield). Discussion was also had regarding possible methods of tick management.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

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The next meeting will be held Wednesday, January 2nd 2019, at 7 PM at the Canale Training Center in EHT.

cc: Dennis Levinson, County Executive
Jerry DelRosso, County Administrator
Diana Rutala, Dep. County Administrator
Frank D. Formica, Chairman - Board of Freeholders
James Bertino, Board of Freeholders – PEAB Representative
Greg Brookins, Dept. Head Public Works
All Advisory Board Members