

ROLL CALL:

Members Present - Robert Amadon, Chairperson
Barbara Lipiew
Ryan Taylor
Ben Szablewski
Councilmember Scott Robertson

Absent - Danielle Bagley
Evelyn Hicks
Thomas Mudd, Jr.
Adam Reger

Associate Members present: Brittany Hernon

WELCOME

Chairperson Amadon opened the meeting and noted a quorum has not been met.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Approval of October 28, 2024, meeting minutes will be held until the following meeting.

ISSUES OF THE PUBLIC

No public comments were received.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence received by the commission.

ONGOING COMMISSION PROJECTS

Bikes

The Environmental Commission will vote to forward a recommendation to the Town Board to include a Transportation Plan in the Comprehensive Plan.

Trees

1. Tree Inventory Grant - Councilmember Robertson stated the latest update he received is that the town and the DEC have satisfied all the requirements, and the grant is hung up with NYS.
2. Tree list – The revised tree list is posted on the town’s website but an update to the town code is still pending.
3. Tree maintenance at town parks – Ms. Lipiew expressed concern that newly planted trees are not properly maintained by the town and stated better practices need to be adopted. Ms. Lipiew also noted the Highway Department’s webpage indicates a temporary pause on replacing trees.

Education

1. Display at the BNAC – Ms. Lipiew stated there is no update but there are environmental outreach activities currently available at the BNAC.

Waterways

1. Storm drain medallions – Councilmember Robertson stated the Highway Department can support the

commission by providing the materials for teams of 2 to install or the Highway Department will take over the installation. Chairperson Amadon prefers to let the Highway Department install the medallions.

2. Past grants – No update was available.

Community Needs and Interests, etc.

1. Ryan Taylor has been appointed as the town's Municipal Representative to the Erie County Environmental Management Council

Governance

- a. The commission will discuss adding a Co-Vice Chair in January
- b. Two vacancies in 2025, one is a youth member
- c. Nomination of Daniell Bagley as an associate commission member to be discussed in January

New Business

- a. NYSDEC Smoke Creek Habitat Opportunity – no update was provided
- b. Anticipating changes with regards to environmental protection programs with the new presidential administration
- c. Need update on tree replacement on Covington Drive – Councilmember Robertson questioned if any of the property owners opted out of a replacing the trees but investigate this. Ms. Herson stated she can provide information on the benefits of trees to be used to inform residents.

Other

- a. Utilize the January meeting to review the commission's planning spreadsheet.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting ended at 7:08 P.M.

Margaret A. Martin
Deputy Town Clerk/Secretary to the Environmental Commission