

**Minutes**  
**Environmental Advisory Board**  
**21 March 2018**  
**Ogden Dunes Town Hall**

The Environmental Board met on 21 March 2018 at 5:35 pm at Town Hall. Attendees were, Susan MiHalo, Doug Cannon, Kristine Sandrick, and John Morris.

Kristine moved to accept the minutes of the last meetings of the Environmental Board, for 17 January 2018 and 24 January 2018. Doug seconded. The motion carried.

Kristine reported from the previous night's meeting of the Lighting Task Force that NIPSCO verbally assured the group that 3000 K lights will be used in town, but they were supposed to send a document to that effect to sign, but we have not received it. As far as the ordinance for residential lighting goes, it is bouncing from committee to committee with some pushback. The outreach needs to stress that it would affect new construction, while existing units are grandfathered in. Dan Manas suggested waiting until the new street lights are in before doing anything else. Susan noted that other towns have a lighting ordinance, but this town does not. For educational outreach, Kristine suggested postings by mailboxes, much as we have done with Doug's recycling flyer. Another action that has been talked about is streetlight elimination. Sue Adams had talked about turning off some lights on a trial basis. Again, the problem of the Indiana American Water filtration plant was brought up. Chelsea Overholt and her husband are canvassing the residents on Indian Camp to get a letter to the company with a cc to Chuck Litzkow.

Susan said the Midwest Steel consent decree will be out by the end of this month. She will participate in a conference call this Friday, and will work to make sure that the Town's needs are addressed in any actions. She will also try to see that Portage is equally concerned. When it is available, we will have 30 days to make comments. We may need a special meeting to get all our points together. We know from Jim Biancotti's comments in the 24 January meeting that there are fewer staff in the environmental area at the plant than when he worked there.

The NICTD double tracking plan still needs the Environmental Impact Statement.

Chelsea will run the beach cleanup again this year

The beach sampling will no longer be done by Polly Costanza, but her son Carson will do it, with Polly as backup.. In case a second backup is needed, Kristine suggested her husband. He will need training, however.

Nothing new was mentioned for the MS4 exemption or the septic workgroup.

Susan would like to clean leaves and trash from Long Lake Marsh. Kristine suggested a workday on the cleanup-the-town weekend.

In June, IDEM will accept the closure plan for the Indiana American Water lagoon. The investigation report was examined, but it needs a closer look.

Susan proposed we submit an ordinance with invasive plants that should not be planted. The code review board should consider this. We need to get the beautification Committee and home association on board. Kristine mentioned that Drew Hart of Urban Forestry oversaw the planting of natives near the soccer field. Susan will bring a draft ordinance to a meeting. She also proposed getting a grant to match funds for residents to replace an existing invasive tree. Kristine mentioned that the Purdue Extension has native plants at the Expo Center in Valparaiso this Friday.

Susan also mentioned partnering with the Historical Society on the Great Lakes film.

John moved to adjourn and Doug seconded. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Submitted by John Morris.