

**Minutes**  
**Environmental Advisory Board**  
**17 April 2019**  
**Ogden Dunes Town Hall**

The Environmental Board met on 17 April 2019 at 5:30 pm at the Ogden Dunes Town Hall. Attendees were, Susan MiHalo, Jim Biancotti, Sue Adams, Kristine Sandrick, Vicky Albritton, Chelsea Overholt, and John Morris.

Kristine moved to accept the minutes of the last meeting of the Environmental Board, for 20 March 2019, with modification. Sue seconded. Kristine's modification concerned who first suggested permaculture. Susan had a more serious change concerning if the US Steel Midwest consent decree was ready for review. It was not. Kristine withdrew her change. The minutes will be modified concerning the consent decree. The motion carried.

The meeting on 27 March 2019 for public comment on the RCRA permit for the Midwest plant was a great success from our standpoint. Of the approximately 35 attendees, about 30 were from Ogden Dunes. IDEM appeared to be surprised at the turnout. They were seemingly unprepared for the questions. Victoria Wittig of Save the Dunes provided good support. Susan prepared a letter for the Town Council as a result of the meeting.

The Indiana American Water Closure Plan for the backflush lagoon is ready for review. Vicky read through it, but had many questions. She said the plan seems to be just let it filter through. There was discussion explaining to relative newcomers the water budget problems the area had ten years ago, which led to this document. Kristine asked that John go through and explain the chemistry in the analyses. There was apparently no 30-day comment period listed, and Susan said we needed one. We shall review and have our comments by 1 May 2019. Susan will send a link to box.com, so we can comment directly on a copy of the document.

The 28 April workshop is set. Some changes from the March workshop to the layout for activity tables were suggested. Chelsea will take care of kids activities. Bring T-shirts to make bags. Susan suggested bring problematic recycling items to ask Therese Haller from the County if it is recyclable. There was concern if bags returned to the grocery store are actually being recycled. Susan will post on the town Facebook a call for questions to raise. Vicki again asked about some communities burning plastics for energy.

The next Septic System Coordination Workgroup meeting is Monday, 29 April. Jim plans to attend.

The Lighting Task Force item is still the annoying spotlight on the flag over Town Hall. No movement on that problem has been made.

There is no news on the MS4 exemption.

Anne Muntean is the new Clean Water Ambassador.

There is nothing new on recycling. Sue will contact Doug Cannon to find if he is involved in the negotiation for the new waste contract. We need to find if we can keep our weekly recycling.

Susan is disappointed there has not been a burn at Long Lake Marsh. She will plan a session to rake the area so as not to lose the native plantings. There has been no sign of geese.

Susan reminded all to review the images from the water symposium at Valparaiso University, in particular, one about how to review permits and other documents.

Kristine moved to adjourn and Jim seconded. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Submitted by John Morris.