

Minutes

Environmental Advisory Board

11 April 2018

Ogden Dunes Town Hall

The Environmental Board met on 11 April 2018 at 5:30 pm at the Ogden Dunes Firehouse. Attendees were, Susan MiHalo, Sue Adams, Chelsea Overholt, and John Morris.

Chelsea moved to accept the minutes of the last meeting of the Environmental Board, for 21 March 2018. Sue seconded. The motion carried.

Sue, in reporting on the work of the Lighting Task Force, said that Calinski of NIPSCO, in a call on 19 March, had assured the group that 3000 K lights will be used in town, but would verify in writing in a week. Nothing has been received. When checking with the Bells of Beverly Shores, they have not received any confirmation either. There is some pushback in the town, telling them to back off. Sue emailed Calinski on Monday, 9 April, but has received no response. Included in that email was a proposal to experiment with turning off some streetlights, but no response was received. Regarding the ordinance for residential lighting, there is pushback. She was unsure if the Code Review Committee was the right place, or whether it should go to the Building Code Review Committee. Ogden Dunes has no lighting ordinance, unlike the surrounding communities. The next meeting of the Task Force will develop a flyer to send to the residents, and one to be laminated and posted as our recycling flyer is. Susan would like the ODEAB to see the flyer so we could endorse it, but Sue will be out of town for the next meeting, so it may need to be done before the next meeting. Grants are due by 7 May. Regarding not getting response from Calinski, Susan can call Carrie Carmichal, his boss.

The Midwest Steel consent decree was reviewed. Susan has nothing from Natalie Johnson, but there is a conference call scheduled next week. The National Park Conservation Association has a law group providing *pro bono* assistance. NPS, NOAA, and the State have damages determined by their response costs, but how would the Town determine costs? The time for Scott Lehman and Tim Nelson to respond, and for the police to post signs closing the beach would be covered. Also, Chuck Litzkow's time to direct the closing of the intake for Indiana American Water would count. There is nothing to account for the residents' anxiety. Susan wanted to ask for a supplemental environmental project, namely put clean sand on our beach. In the consent decree, in paragraph 20, on page 21, the notification of a spill should be as soon as possible, but no later than 24 hours to the parties listed in Appendix B, either orally or electronically. We would like it to be orally, with following email referencing the oral message,

in case a voice mail was left. A time stamp should be used for all messages. The phone numbers for the Town should be reviewed to see if those are most appropriate. When the Town is notified, we will need a standard operating procedure for our response. We are not sure if natural resource harm has been defined. In the Operation and Maintenance Plan outlined in paragraph 10, there should be mention of training, both for new staff, and annual refreshers for all staff. In paragraph 10 c, periodic inspection should be defined by frequency. In paragraph 18, the semi-annual reports are for 15 March, and 15 September. Since the March date is past, will there be no report until September? The terms of the consent decree are for 24 months. Is that long enough?

The NICTD double tracking plan has nothing new.

Beach cleanup will be done again this year.

The beach grant has not yet been signed.

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

Susan also mentioned again partnering with the Historical Society on the Great Lakes film, *Making Waves*. She was concerned that it is 2 hours long. She has not viewed the film, but will try to see if it would be appropriate.

We came back to lighting, and Chelsea told of the efforts to get residents to sign the letter she and her husband prepared to give to Indiana American Water about the very bright lights.

John moved to adjourn and Sue seconded. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Submitted by John Morris.