

Minutes

Environmental Advisory Board

8 July 2015

Ogden Dunes Town Hall

The Environmental Board met on 8 July 2015 at 5:30 pm at Town Hall. Attendees were Sue MiHalo, John Morris, Jim Biancotti, Bob Cattani, Tom Clouser, and Paul Panther, with Kristine Sandrick sitting in.

Bob moved to accept the minutes of the last meeting of the Environmental Board, for 13 May 2015, and Jim seconded. The motion carried.

Sue announced that the Adopt-a-Beach cleanup will be in September, and that recruiting of participants is needed, especially families. She will need help with putting up the sign and changing out for the Septic Awareness Week sign the following day.

Sue also expressed a need to change the date of the meeting. The third Wednesday was suggested. John moved to make that change, and Bob seconded. The motion carried.

There is nothing new regarding the high speed rail EIS.

There is no update on the MS4 exemption. Jim hopes to scan the old document and save it in a Word file so changes we know about, such as the 2010 census results, and the pump by Long Lake Marsh added in 2009, can be added. Thus a new application would be ready when requested. Jim also needs to investigate wells in town, and possibly add information about soil type from a heat pump that was installed on Shore Drive.

Jim said there was no meeting of the Septic System Coordination Work Group. He mentioned that a notice needs to be added on the TV channel for Septic Awareness Week. Sue said she would attend to it. Jim will see to getting brochures to realtors for new residents.

New statistics on recycling are available, with the town diverting 33%, or the national average. Disturbingly, the percentage goes down during the summer, and many reasons for this were offered. The most likely was temporary residents, or guests, putting recyclable material in plastic bags before depositing it in the bin. Such bagged material is shunted to trash at the sorting center. Discussion of education of the residents came to no definite proposals.

In Long Lake Marsh, the Purple Loostripe is starting to bloom. Sue asked for permission to spend \$100 to have the invasives sprayed. Jim moved to allow this, and Bob seconded. The motion carried.

The oil train rules were published 1 May. To account for the number of trains, Tom mentioned an effort to document the number of times the gates go up and down, but there is no current way to keep track of the length of the trains. Sue noted a newspaper mention of a group of western suburbs of Chicago forming an association for action on oil trains. She wondered if we could join or form a like organization locally.

There is nothing new on batteries or cell phones. It was proposed that the cell phone box be closed. Jim may think about using the box for brass keys.

The Board needs to make assignments for contacts among the industries. Susan Adams is a logical candidate for some of this. We will discuss it with her when she returns. Jim has contact information for Midwest, Precoat and Amrox. Sue mentions more than 20 contractors at the port. Much information is on the TRI database, and we are all encouraged to examine it. There is a map feature in TRI that is useful.

Susan Adams is interested in getting moving on the Dark Skies, so she has contacted the Bells of Beverly Shores. A public education effort is needed. Expressing the initiative as a safety issue would be most successful.

John moved to adjourn, Bob seconded, and the motion was approved at 6:30 pm.

Submitted by John Morris.