

Minutes

Environmental Advisory Board

16 November 2016

Ogden Dunes Town Hall

The Environmental Board met on 16 November 2016 at 5:30 pm at Town Hall. Attendees were, Susan MiHalo, Bob Cattani, Jim Biancotti, Kristine Sandrick, and John Morris.

Jim moved to accept the minutes of the last meeting of the Environmental Board, for 19 October 2016. Bob seconded. The motion carried.

With regard to the potential shipment of petcoke to the Port of Indiana for transshipment out the seaway, nothing is certain. Susan had prepared a letter under Tim Nelson's signature to Richard Cooper at the Port, expressing concern. Two of the ccs, to Jody Peacock and Rick Heimann of the Port were not sent because their email addresses were not known. Jim contacted the counterpart to his former position at USS Midwest, and he had heard nothing. Bob had contacted BP Whiting to find out how the petcoke there was shipped, and found it was leaving by railcar. Susan contacted Nathanael Pilla of Save the Dunes, who attend last month's meeting. He has eyes on the ground to alert if anything happens.

Kristine Sandrick gave an update on last night's Dark Skies meeting. Action is on hold due to NIPSCO's plans to retrofit the streetlamps of a number of communities. They supposedly sent a letter these communities, but Ogden Dunes did not receive it; neither did Beverly Shores. Apparently, all lamps will be fitted with 4000 kelvin LEDs, whereas the Dark Skies Initiative limits that to 3000. Kristine showed an image of the new lamps, which have a rather flat cowling, and they broadcast bright light sideways. Davis, California is installing the 3000 kelvin lamps, and Dan Manis plans to contact them about this. NIPSCO says that the current lamps will be obsolete, and not serviceable in a few years, but our town is far down on the replacement schedule, so it may be 5-8 years before we are subjected to this change. Dyer is first in the region to be changed, so the workgroup plans to take a trip over there when they are changed to see how it looks. Who is paying for the LEDs was not clear, but Susan suggested banding together with Beverly Shores, Dune Acres, and also NPS to have a united front for the lower strength LEDs. Regarding residential lighting, it seemed clear that the community residents didn't want to hear that they would need to change out fixtures. Rather, it was suggested that an ordinance for new construction and building modifications be proposed. Sue Adams will contact Dick Meister about this. Next steps, Dan and Sue will talk to NIPSCO. John asked the same fixture could use 3000 as well as 4000 LEDs; are they interchangeable? That is something to find out. Indiana American Water has very bright lights, but may be amenable to change.

Susan asked for a Long Lake Marsh cleanup on 3 December 2016, at 8:30. This coming Saturday is not good. Bring gloves and loppers. Susan will supply the 50% glyphosate to paint the stumps. Jim will contact Ben Newton about cleanup of the cuttings.

The 20-17 Beach Grant is due to IDEM on 7 December 2016, so Susan will present it to the Town Council at their 5 December meeting.

There is nothing new on MS4 exemption.

Jim will attend the next Septic System Coordination Workgroup meeting.

Kristine presented costs for getting the recycling flyer prepared by Doug Cannon printed for inclusion in the water bill, possibly for January. She had one quote from Portage Custom Ware, of \$235 for 100# paper stock, gloss and letter folded. She tried another place, Minuteman Press, but her call wasn't returned. She will try again. Nancy Johnson mentioned to her that some Community Fund money hadn't been spent, so that is a possible source of funds for this.

There will be no meeting in December, unless something important comes up.

Susan suggested we thank Representative Peter Visclosky for trying to make the National Lakeshore a National Park.

Jim moved to adjourn and Kristine seconded. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Submitted by John Morris.