

Minutes

Environmental Advisory Board

15 March 2017

Ogden Dunes Town Hall

The Environmental Board met on 15 March 2017 at 5:30 pm at Town Hall. Attendees were, Susan MiHalo, Sue Adams, Kristine Sandrick, Doug Cannon, Chelsea Overholt, and John Morris.

Sue moved to accept the minutes of the last meeting of the Environmental Board, for 18 January 2017. Doug seconded. The motion carried.

Susan opened the meeting with a request for ideas for the Board's goals and special projects. Given the state of the US EPA, Citizens will need to keep a better eye on local industries. Residents will need to be encouraged to use the complaint form on our website and to call IDEM. Photographs and air canisters can be used to gather data to document a release, such as iron oxide or acid vapors.

With regard to the potential shipment of petcoke to the Port of Indiana for transshipment, no new information is available. We think it will still happen, and the possibility of fugitive dust from piles or barge or rail shipment will have to be watched for.

Sue Adams gave an update on Dark Skies. The town council sent a letter to NIPSCO, but Calinski has not responded. Beverly Shores has not received a response, either. The idea had been to make a unified request from the lakeshore communities to use 3000 Kelvin or even 2700 Kelvin LEDs instead of the 4000 Kelvin LEDs NIPSCO had said they plan to use. The collaboration may not have happened, because talking to the NPS was left to the town council. Kristine had inquired about Chicago's plans, and the 3000 K lights were planned, but the populace wants 2700 K lights. Indiana American Water has lights that will need to be shielded, but contacts have not been answered, possibly because the managers we attempted to contact have changed. The possibility that some of the existing streetlights are redundant might be addressed by having an information booth at the Memorial Day picnic, and asking for input with a map of streetlights. This would be a larger booth than last year's, with information about recycling as well as Dark Skies. We could ask the Bells of Beverly Shores how they handled this situation. Sue said the proposed ordinance for household lighting was sent to the Building Code Review Board. Send any suggestions to Sue Adams.

Long Lake Marsh phragmites are still a problem. Susan says that the portion of the marsh owned by the water company is providing a source of more phragmites that then invade our marsh.

The 2017 Beach Grant is waiting to be signed. Beach monitoring is going away in the proposed fiscal 2018 US EPA budget, so unless other funds are found somewhere, there will be no beach monitoring after this summer. The total cost for the coming year is \$18,600, of which, \$13,000 is for the lab analysis.

There is nothing new on MS4 exemption.

Jim Biancotti was not present, so there was no report from the Septic System Coordination Workgroup meeting he attended in January.

There was discussion about the recycling flyers, wondering what residents have done with them. Susan asked on Facebook if people would respond with how they use them, and received a few responses, all positive. Doug queried some of the stores about what happens to the plastic film (number 4) that is collected, but got little response. Meijer said it was controlled by higher management, and Walmart wouldn't talk to him. As we had discussed having a booth at the Memorial Day picnic, we need to talk to the Lions Club about recyclable beer cups.

The beach cleanup in September was very successful, with many families participating. Susan will be out of town this September, so someone else must manage it. We must decide by July.

To update the website, we need to change the link on recycling. Also, the days for beach monitoring need to be updated, and remove the reference to collection of cell phones. Under Resident Information, in Septic Systems, the paragraph numbered 2 after the header in Care, "Be careful what is disposed..." should start "Use *discretion*..."

Some source of funds needs to be found, as our annual budget is \$200. Some type of event might be planned, but in any event, the board needs a better idea what funds are needed. Next meeting will include a discussion of needs.

Sue moved to adjourn and Kristine seconded. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Submitted by John Morris.