

## Minutes

### Environmental Advisory Board

15 June 2016

### Ogden Dunes Town Hall

The Environmental Board met on 15 June 2016 at 5:30 pm at Town Hall. Attendees were, Susan MiHalo, Kristine Sandrick, Sue Adams, Jim Biancotti, and John Morris. Paul Panther sat in.

Kristine moved to accept the minutes of the last two meetings of the Environmental Board, for 20 April 2016 and 18 May 2016, and John seconded. The motion carried.

The American Oxide Company (AMROX) permit renewal was discussed. Comments are due to IDEM in early July. Susan made some comments concerning infrequent testing for particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) similar to comments made the last permit in 2011. It was unclear in the wording whether AMROX had 10 days after a release to notify IDEM. John said he would compare the changes between the old and new documents. Jim said he would contact his former work colleagues at USS Midwest to see if they had comments.

A proposal was introduced at the last Town Council meeting to allow dogs on the beach between 6 to 9 am during the summer. Although the dog owners among the board members assured that they picked up their dog waste, it was seen as likely that not all owners would be so responsible. It is possible that some waste would be buried. A child digging for with beach toys might uncover such. Dog waste is a contribution to *E. coli* in the nearshore water. Whereas wildlife also contributes, the town must control what it can. Past councils saw fit to prohibit dogs on the beach during swimming season for a reason. We respect that decision. Also, there would be a tendency to play with the dog off-leash, which town ordinance already prohibits. John moved to recommend the Town Council kept current restrictions in place due to imperfect waste collection by owners. Susan seconded and the motion carried.

Regarding the MS4 exemption, Jim hadn't looked at it, but he did say that Reggie Korthals of IDEM has moved on. He did not know who her replacement is.

Jim attended the Septic System Coordination Work Group meeting on 2 June 2016. They are preparing a video to show how a septic system works. The group is under the impression that Ogden Dunes is ahead of everyone else in the region regarding education outreach. The septic survey distributed by Jenny Brown last week had little participation.

The beach monitoring is proceeding and all is well. All measurements have been in limits. Carson Costanza is Polly Costanza's backup and a contract is need for him.

Sue Adams addressed the Dark Skies Initiative. She wished to contact NIPSCO to investigate the 5 poles with possibly incorrect numbers. Paul stated that the Indiana American Water plant was amenable to modifying their lights. Sue wants to do an adopt-a-light program, but we need impetus from the Council. A motion was proposed for the ODEAB to develop a task force for the purpose of education and demonstration and requests the support of the Town Council to promote international dark skies. The motion carried.

It was not decided when the beach cleanup should be.

Regarding the information table at the Memorial Day picnic, it was decided to try again next year, even though few visitors came to the booth.

John moved to adjourn and Kristine seconded. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Submitted by John Morris.