

Closter Environmental Commission
Meeting Minutes Sept. 16, 2008

Present: David Scholz, Beth Ravit Steve Isaacson, Richard Ryan, Mary Mayer, Arthur Goldberg, Adrienne Isacoff, Jayanthi Ramaswamy
Bobbi Goldberg attended from the Historic Preservation Committee

Commenced: 8:00 P.M.

Old Business:

1. Review of Minutes: Approved as adjusted
2. No Public Comments

New Business:

1. Rich Ryan noted that the grant for the Bridge over the Tenakill requires invoicing by October 30, 2008. Bobbi noted that it was muddy near the Bridge. Rich advised that native plants such as cattails would likely grow in the wetlands area and no plantings were required.
2. Rich proposed that the Bridge be named after a Closter resident, James John O'Shaughnessy, who had died in service during the Viet Nam War. He had made this proposal to the Mayor and Council previously, but the suggestion was not accepted since a street was already named "O'Shaughnessy Lane" and only one street or structure is named for each veteran. Steve Isaacson noted that the Mayor and Council had voted to name the Bridge the "David Scholz Bridge" in recognition of Dave's service as the Chair of the Environmental Commission. Rich then suggested that the trail system be named for O'Shaughnessy, but the majority of the Committee members believed that it should be named the Cross Closter Trail. A motion was made and seconded to suggest to the Mayor and Council that it reconsider naming the Bridge the James John O'Shaughnessy Memorial Bridge. The Motion was passed with four members approving, one against and one abstention.
3. The Harvest Festival will be taking place on October 18, 2008. It was agreed that the time of the event should be moved earlier and will now take place from 4-6PM, so that families can get home before it gets too dark and in time for dinner. The police will suspend parking on Hickory Lane. The Nature Center will bring tables. Children will be able to pick pumpkins at the Farm and decorate them with markers. A campfire will be made in an open area, where the children can roast marshmallows.
4. Bobbi offered to make a scrapbook for the Environmental Commission and needs materials.

5. The MacBain Farm contract expires in June 2010. The contract needs to be reviewed and renewed. Mary noted that the Environmental Commission needs to be proactive with the Mayor and Council to renew the contract with certain modifications and to provide input about who will be the caretaker.

The Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.