

Esopus Environmental Board Notes

October 16, 2024, 2024

Present:

Mark Ellison, EB Chairman

Jenna Ice

Nina Nichols (7:06 p.m.)

TB Liaison, Evelyn Clarke (7:17 p.m.)

Excused:

Noel Russ

Chris DeCicco

Julie Brinkman (Zoom)

Guest: Elaine Jaffe, Treasurer of Esopus Library

Meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:04 p.m.

Old Business:

Minutes: No quorum to vote.

New Business:

Grant Status: Partners for Climate Action – Elaine Jaffe was available to present input as Treasurer of the Esopus Library which had a community garden. As a resident of Riverview and after becoming a member of the Library Board, she made landscaping a priority. Broke down areas to islands in the parking area, in front of the library, pond behind the Library and develop landscape reading area – all with native and pollinator plantings. The four proposed projects would cover most of the property. A \$600.00 grant had been obtained for the Spitzenberger Apple Trees. Nina Nichols suggested that any grant money may be utilized to develop handicapped accessibility. Chairman Ellison inquired what would be the role of the Environmental Board. Elaine Jaffe responded that the EB members could work as an ad hoc committee to work with the Library. Mark Ellison suggested incorporating education to youth. There was one week to submit the grant proposal – a narrative and budget was needed to complete the application. Nina Nichols asked what was needed to get the grant written and offered that she, Jenna Ice and Julie Brinkman could work on drafting portions of the grant application. Elaine Jaffe offered to email necessary information for the three (3) sections of the grant application.

At the suggestion of TB Liaison Evelyn Clarke, portions able to be completed were filled in. Nina Nichols would serve as point person and would circulate the Application after the workshop meeting. Elaine Jaffe suggested one area to target for the grant application. Julie Brinkman suggested that the focus be on the pollinator garden. It was possible to apply for two (2) separate grants which would require 2 separate applications. Consideration was given to apply for the restoration of the pond as well. A quote had been obtained for the islands. Nina Nichols suggested that Elaine Jaffe complete portion relative to information submitted to obtain the quote from Augustine Nursery. Nina Nicholas offered to draft the project description to forward for final drafting. Nina Nichols would reach out to Jenna Ice to determine what input she wished to contribute. Nina Nichols located the Library Bylaws available online.

Elaine Jaffe noted that the Library was a green building and Evelyn Clarke suggested to add that to the grant application. There currently was no budget but there was a proposal for the island. Mark Ellison suggested a follow-up meeting prior to submission of the grant application.

Membership:

There were currently vacancies on the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa K. Mance, Secretary

Dated: October 16, 2024