

Minutes: Russell Township Board of Zoning Appeals
Russell Fire-Rescue Station
February 9, 2016

Present: Steve Gokorsch, Chairman
Sarah Moore
Dushan Boucek
Nick Grassi

Mr. Downing was absent with apologies.

Also in attendance: Diana Steffen, Zoning Inspector.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

Mr. Gokorsch welcomed Mr. Grassi to the Board of Zoning Appeals, and thanked him for volunteering.

The meeting was sunshined on February 5th for the change of the meeting date and location.

LAUREL SCHOOL CONDITIONAL USE #380: Annual review of Environmental Management Plan.

Kathy Jankowski, Matt Stanich, and Mary Ann Pellerano were present to answer any questions that the Board had about the annual Environmental Management Plan for Laurel School. The invasive species survey is being updated. herbicides are being used to try and lessen the number of buckthorns, and other invasive species of plants on the property. The herbicide that is being used is safe for water such as the ponds and river, but kills any plant that it touches. This year, an application of insecticides was not used to help reduce the overall amount of insecticide products that are used.

Mr. Gokorsch asked why the pond water is tested in November and not in the spring? Mr. Stanich said this is because the ponds were down last year, and the ponds need to be low and then recharge. This allows the ponds to become low in the summer and recharge and fill up in the fall for testing. Mr. Gokorsch asked if the water flowing out of the ponds was being tested. Mr. Stanich said that the water was being tested at the discharge point. Mr. Gokorsch asked if the creek was being tested. The creek is not being tested at this time, but Chagrin River Watershed Partners discussed testing the creek in the future. In 2013 they said the creek was in very good shape. Mr. Gokorsch asked if Mr. Stanich would get in touch with Chagrin River Watershed Partners and ask about testing the water from the creek.

Ms. Moore made the motion to approve the Laurel School's annual review of their Environmental Management Plan. Mr. Boucek seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

MINUTES OF JANUARY 4, 2016 – *Ms. Moore made the made the motion to accept the minutes of January 4, 2016 as amended. Mr. Boucek seconded the motion and it passed. Mr. Grassi abstained.*

Ms. Moore made the motion to accept the finding of facts for variance request #488 as amended. Mr. Boucek seconded the motion and it passed. Mr. Grassi abstained.

Ms. Moore made the motion to accept the findings of facts for variance request #489 as amended. Mr. Boucek seconded the motion and it passed. Mr. Grassi abstained.

Ms. Moore made the motion to accept the findings of fact for variance request #490 as amended. Mr. Boucek seconded the motion and it passed. Mr. Grassi abstained.

There being no other business, Ms. Moore made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Boucek seconded and the meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Dorka

Date

Steve Gokorsch
Chairman

Date