

Dismal Swamp Commission Meeting

Location: South Plainfield Municipal Complex

Date: August 28, 2018

Attendees: Bob Diehl, Treasurer; Walter Stochel, Jr. Vice Chair; Dorothy Rasmussen, Chair; Rob Bengivenga; Joe Scrudato, and Kenneth Sammond, Secretary.

- Dorothy Rasmussen opened the meeting at 7:07pm.
- Chair Rasmussen distributed the draft of the professional services agreement with Najarian and Associates for review. She asked if there were any comments, amendments or suggestions.
- Walter Stochel noted that Section 4. Compensation of the Agreement should be amended so that the wording be changed from “township” to “commission.”
- Rob Bengivenga asked if the approved truck route from the Helen Street extension will be take into account when the metes and bounds are determined by Najarian. He pointed out that the route has been approved by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection and wondered how the metes and bounds determination may impact this route.
- Bob Diehl stated that we need to clarify that we need a quorum for any votes on significant measures as we proceed forward, including such matters as the Helen Street extension.
- Rob Bengivenga asked who would sign the professional services agreement on behalf of the commission. Bob Diehl suggested that Chair Rasmussen and John Wiley, our legal counsel, be authorized.
- There were no further comments on the professional services agreement.
- Chair Rasmussen called for a vote to authorize to have John Wiley and Dorothy Rasmussen to sign the signatures for the PSA
- Bob Diehl made a motion. Walter Stochel seconded. Rob Bengivenga, Ken Sammond, and John Scrudato voted in favor.
- Rob Bengivenga stated that we should have an auditor hired to do the finances for the commission since we now have funds in our account, which will be disbursed to vendors and which require accountability to state guidelines. Walter concurred.

- Chair Rasmussen asked whether we need an auditor or an accountant. Or do we need both? Discussion ensued. It was concluded that we should ask Chris Masaukas or John Wiley for guidance.
- Rob Bengivenga suggested that we issue an RFP in September for an auditor, pending the outcome of consultation with Masaukas and Wiley. We could also consult with Susan Jackson, town clerk in Metuchen.
- Bob Diehl – Agenda for the September meeting? The next meeting will be in Metuchen on October 9, 2018 at 7pm
- Chair Rasmussen state that she had emailed a new and updated contact list of the DSC members and that we should review and make corrections as necessary.
- Bob Diehl made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Ken Sammond seconded the motion. All voted in favor to adjourn.
- The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.