

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

July 27, 2010

7:30PM

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:30 P.M. Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer called the meeting to order and read the following notice requirements.

Notice Requirements

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act and published in the Hunterdon County Democrat and the Courier News on February 4th, 2010, and by telefaxing a copy of the notice to the Star Ledger, and the Express Times on January 29th, 2010. A copy of the notice was also posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building and Post Office on January 29th, 2010.

In order to ensure full public participation in this meeting, all members of this Committee or Board, and also members of the public are requested to speak only when recognized by the Chair, so that there is no simultaneous discussion or over-talk, and further, all persons are requested to utilize the microphones which are provided for your use by the Township. Your cooperation is appreciated.

ROLL CALL

Present

Debbie Kratzer

Lois Voronin

Sandy McNicol – 7:45PM

Gail Ashley

David Posey

Absent

Joe Zgurzynski

Cynthia Niciecki

Elaine Niemann

Nicole Voigt

Richard Abbott

Approval of the June 22, 2010 Meeting Minutes

Motion and Adoption of June 22, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Environmental Commission

Not enough members were present at this time to approve. This will be tabled until the August meeting for approval.

Correspondence

Memo from the Hunterdon County Planning Board re: Hunterdon County Planning Board Planning and Design awards – 2010

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer suggested several ideas for the Township to be nominated.

2.

She said that the Solar Panels at the Township Garage would be good to enter as an award. The Commission members also discussed several other ideas like the Environmental Resource Inventory, or a special ordinance of some kind.

Reports

Freshwater Wetlands Application Checklist – Notice to Neighboring Landowners – Block 8, Lot 15 and Block 48 and Lot 8 – Submitted by Richard Venino (TRDPD Corp.) & Philip White (Kingwood-Franklin, LLC)

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

Copy of Memo Sent to the Parks and Recreation Committee re: Strategy for Managing the Kingwood Pond with the Change in Regulations

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that this may apply to the Kingwood Pond. She stated that she has not heard from the Parks and Recreation Committee as of this date regarding their opinion of the new and changing regulations.

Copy of Freshwater Wetlands Application Checklist – Notice to Neighboring Landowners . Robert Cacciabauda, Federal Twist Road Bl 37, Lt 9.01 – Application for General Permit

The Commission members reviewed. Gail Ashley volunteered to inquire and obtain maps to review of the area. She will go on line to request these items. It was suggested by Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer that a subcommittee be formed to address the application to see if there could be a problem. David Posey also offered to check into this and see if he can find any information.

Copy of Letter from Engineering and Land Planning Assoc. Inc. re: Application submitted by: Garden Solar, LLC – Letter of Interpretation – 873 State Route 12, Bl 15, Lt 4.03

There was a very lengthy discussion on this property. It was noted that it is 21 acres, and they are planning to install Solar Panels. Sandra McNicol explained that the Township's Planner David Banisch, discussed an ordinance they are working on to adopt. The Environmental Commission expressed that they would like to review the draft ordinance and give their comments before this is presented to the Township Committee. There was discussion of concern that the Planning Board has regarding the run off and sight screening of the solar fields. Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer will prepare a memo to send to the Planning Board from the Environmental Commission with a request to review the draft ordinance.

3.

Copy of Letter from Engineering and Land Planning Assoc. Inc. – re: Public Notification, NJDEP Land Use Regulations Permits – 1038 Route 12, Bl 12 Lots 16, & 16.01

The Commission members reviewed. Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that they are looking for flood hazard verification. She explained that she will print up wetland maps that run through Copper Creek and also the watershed. She stated that she will bring them for the Commission members to review.

Hunterdon County Soil Conservation District

N/A

Recycling Update/Coordinator Cynthia Niciecki

Cynthia Niciecki Recycling Report for July 2010
Volunteer for August 14, 2010

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that Cynthia Niciecki was absent at the meeting this evening. She read aloud the following Recycling Report from C. Niciecki for July:

July 2010 Kingwood Recycling Coordinators Report

Elaine and I ordered Event Recycling Receptacles for use at Community Day and other events. They are portable and will offer the opportunity for citizens to dispose of their drink containers properly during events at the park and other community gatherings. There is now a used clothing and shoes bin at our Recycling Depot from Planet Aid, a non-profit organization. It is located next to the M&A metal dumpster. Five 5-gallon buckets of household batteries were taken to the County Hazardous Waste Day.

Thanks go to Lois for covering for me at our Recycling Day this month. The M&A Dumpster was switched on July 7. That was the second time it was filled since it was put in place.

I am presently attending a SWAC meeting where we are having a tour of the Raritan Valley Recycling facility. I will report on it at the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Niciecki

Volunteer for Saturday August 14, 2010 Recycling: Gail Ashley Volunteered for that day.

Old Business

Idling – David Posey reviews information

4.

David Posey explained the information he had provided for the meeting. He explained that he would like to see the Township Committee members adopt a resolution, similar to the sample draft resolution he has provided from the State. He would like to have the schools, bus drivers, and parents to have a copy of the resolution and information about the subject, so it will educate them about Idling, and the damage it is causing.

It was moved by David Posey, seconded by Sandra McNicol and carried to request that the Township Committee members adopt a resolution similar to the draft resolution the Commission has reviewed.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye	-	Debbie Kratzer, Lois Voronin, Sandra McNicol, David Posey, Gail Ashley
Nay	-	None
Abstain	-	None
Absent	-	Joe Zgurzynski, Elaine Niemann, Nicole Voigt, Richard Abbott, Cynthia Niciecki

David Posey will be attending the Township Committee meeting on August 3rd at 7:30PM to discuss Idling with the Committee members.

Open Space & Recreation Plan

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that she found additional Surveys and she will be forwarding them to David Banisch.

Central Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed what was discussed last month regarding the Invasive Species Team. Sandra McNicol will be preparing a memo to send to the C.J.I.S.S.T., stating that the Environmental Commission is very interested in joining the Team.

Sustainable Jersey Program – Update

David Posey noted that there was no meeting in July.

Deer Overpopulation – Update

There was a lengthy discussion on the increase of the deer population on County property. Sandra McNicol noted that the farmers are having a problem with their crops and had to cut down the soy beans. She suggested that more hunting be encouraged at the Frenchtown preserved property, and also the Clark property. She noted that there will be another round table meeting with the County if anyone was interested.

5.

New Business

Second Quarter Septic Reports

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed with the Commission members the second quarter septic reports for the month of April.

Maintenance of trail on Township property between school and park

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer would like to get a subcommittee together with the Township's Public Works Dept. to speak to them about working together on the walkway. This will be scheduled in the month of September. David Posey stated that he will speak to the Township Committee members regarding the garbage that was dumped on the walkway, and see if there is anything that can be done to discourage people from driving on the property. He suggested a barrier of some kind at either end of the walkway to prevent cars from driving and dumping on the walkway.

Action Items:

Environmental Commission Site Plan Reviews

No plans to review this month.

Community Day (September 18, 2010)

Lois Voronin noted that she has obtained quotes for the discount well water testing, and also the discount septic cleaning for the fall program the Township will be having in September. She explained all the details of the program, and will put this information on a page for the mailing to go out in August. These programs will be offered at Community Day at the Environmental Commission booth. Residents will be able to sign up that day for either program.

Wastewater Management Plan

No new update this month.

MEL – Updates

No updates on MEL this month.

Open Space

Open Space Member Sandra McNicol reviews Open Space/Agriculture Advisory Committee meeting of July 1, 2010.

Sandra McNicol reported that not too much is happening this time of the year. She did explain that the Deer Run Property on Spring Hill Road closed. She stated that the larger piece of property is still up in the air.

Public Comment – Privilege of the Floor

N/A

Adjournment

It was moved by Gail Ashley, seconded by Sandra McNicol and carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:05PM. **All** voted **Aye** on **Roll Call Vote**.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia L. Keller
Secretary