

**KINGWOOD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL  
COMMISSION**

**Regular Meeting Minutes  
February 26, 2008**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Deborah Kratzer at 8:00 P.M.

**Notice Requirements**

**Adequate notice of this meeting was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by publication of the notice in the Delaware Valley News and the Express Times and by telefaxing a copy of the notice to the Courier News and the Star Ledger January 2008. A copy of the notice was also posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building in January 2008.**

**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:** Deborah Kratzer      Anthony Hauck  
Lois Voronin              Sandra McNicol  
Sal DeSapio (arrived at 8:09 PM)  
Cynthia Niciecki

**Absent:** Daniel DeFrancesco  
Joseph Zgurzynski

## **Minutes**

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by Lois Voronin and carried to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2008 Environmental Commission meeting.

**Roll Call Vote: AYE** - **Debbie Kratzer, Cynthia Niciecki, Anthony Hauck, Sandra McNicol, Lois Voronin**  
**NAY** - **None**  
**ABSTAIN** - **Walt Warneski, Elaine Niemann**  
**ABSENT** - **Sal DeSapio, Daniel DeFrancesco, Joseph Zgurzyski**

## **Correspondence**

Rutgers New Jersey Agriculture Experiment Station/Onsite Waterwaste Systems  
The Environmental Protection Beyond the Standards  
Seminar May 6, and 7, 2008 – Rutgers Ecocomplex, Bordentown, NJ

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

## **Reports**

Letter of Interpretation – Line Verification Application/Freshwater Wetlands – Applicants – Route 12 Properties LLC – Block 12, Lot 16

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. Sandra McNicol explained that the applicants had gone to the Board of Adjustment, and recently presented completeness. Lois Voronin stated that they have also been reviewed by the Delaware River Canal Commission.

Letter of Interpretation – Transition Area Averaging Plan Notification Letter/Freshwater Wetlands – Applicants – Orlando Development – Block 9, Lot 14.04

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. Sandra McNicol reviewed the location and the amount of acres on the property.

Freshwater Wetlands Application Checklist – Applicant – Tony Vacca, 1103 State Highway 12, Block 6, Lot 24

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. Sandra McNicol stated that Mr. Vacca is looking to relocate his business.

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Hunterdon County Soil Conservation District letter of certification/project – Hidden Orchard Estates, Block 22, Lot 16

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

Hunterdon County Soil Conservation District letter of certification/project – Belmonte Dwelling, Block 29, Lot 5.01

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

Discussion on the Union Township Environmental Commission Welcomes ANJEC

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer asked the members if anyone had attended the meeting. It was noted that no one attended that the weather was very poor that evening. Sandra McNicol will be contacting a representative from ANJEC to obtain information on the meeting.

Smart Growth Planning Assistance grants of up to \$20,000 for Municipalities/Deadline March 31, 2008

Sandra McNicol feels that the Open Space Advisory Committee should review the Open Space Element of the Master Plan that it has not been reviewed since the year 2000. It was never submitted to the County. Mrs. McNicol stated that they are also eight years behind with the plan. Sandra will bring this subject up at the next Open Space Committee. Debbie Kratzer suggested that a member from the Open Space and member from the Environmental Commission get together to work on this project.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer briefly reviewed the Smart Growth Planning Grant, and said that it is available for municipalities to apply. She stated that there are only 17 grants to be issued. The Environmental Commission is very interested in applying for this grant, but needs support from the Township Committee by a resolution. Mrs. Kratzer would like a letter written to the Township Committee from the Environmental Commission requesting their support of the Environmental Commission to apply for the grant. The Township Committee would have to adopt a resolution in support of the grant. Secretary Brown was asked to write the letter to the Township Committee.

Info from the Delaware Riverkeeper/Recent Reports – Elizabethtown Gas Co. Project Halted for Lack of permits

Chairwoman Kratzer reviewed a news report which was on the DRK website concerning the Elizabethtown Gas Co. and the lack of permits. A report of violation was reported to the N.J.D.E.P. for not obtain permits for disturbing with 300 feet buffer of the creeks.

### **New Business**

#### Grant Opportunity from The Garden Club of Somerset Hills/Deadline is February 29<sup>th</sup>

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer suggested contacting the Parks and Recreation Committee to discuss developing a butterfly garden or tree planting project at the park. Sandra McNicol explained that she is still waiting to hear about the grant that was applied for forestry. She stated that part of that money must be used to get a forestry plan for the community. She also agrees that the Environmental Commission should meet the Parks and Recreation Committee to plan several ideas for the park. Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer suggested they form a subcommittee with a few members from each committee. Secretary Brown to bring and share with the Parks and Recreation Committee at their next meeting.

#### Items received if anyone wishes to review

### **Old Business**

#### Conservation Survey – Lois Voronin

Lois Voronin reviewed the completed survey and several of the questions that were answered. It was noted that Angela Clerico from the Township planners office will be incorporating the survey into the Conservation Element of the master plan.

#### End of year report draft

Chairman Debbie Kratzer asked for a volunteer to assist her with the project of working on an end of the year report draft for the Environmental Commission for 2007. The members asked Secretary Brown to gather all the minutes for the year 2007. Lois Voronin volunteered to help Debbie Kratzer with the end of year report.

#### Hosting or CoHosting an ANJEC Workshop at one of our EC Meetings

This was decided to be discussed at the next meeting, which is March 25, 2008 for the Environmental Commission meeting.

#### Anjec Quarterly Report/Quarterly Update for ANJEC Grant: Kingwood Conservation Element/ERI update – February 1, 2008

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed all the comments from the committees, and that it should be on the next Planning Board agenda.

2008 Objectives (Copy of the 2007 Objectives from Debbie Kratzer)

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer distributed a copy of the 2007 objectives to be a guide for a draft for this year 2008 and to get an idea of what the Environmental Commission would like to do this year. She is hopeful that all the members of the Committee will participate in areas of what they would like to accomplish.

Some of the objectives reviewed were - Grants, Recycling, Open Space, Ordinances, Outreach/Education, Site Plan Review, Ground Water, Parks and Recreation, Tree and native planting, Meetings and Courses.

Cynthia Niciecki reviewed an update of the recycling schedule for 2008. She is working on the list of tonnages and will get that list for the upcoming meetings. It was suggested for C. Niciecki to schedule each month on the second Saturday of each month a different member from the committee to volunteer at recycling for that day.

Sandra McNicol offered to contact the recycling representative from Lambertville to get some information for Kingwood as far as recycling to improve the services for the community. The objectives for 2008 for recycling is that the hours have increased, and to expand the items to be recycled.

Open Space/Environmental Commission – a work session has been tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, March 19, 2008 at 8:00 P.M. to learn about the GIS mapping. Lois Voronin will be instructing the group. Welcome to all members that are interested in learning.

It was suggested to add water well yields to the 2008 objectives. There was discussion on conducting another septic cleaning for the community at a low rate to be either in the spring or the fall.

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by Lois Voronin and carried to approve Objectives for 2008 for the Environmental Commission.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>- Kratzer, Voronin, DeSapio, Hauck, Niciecki, McNicol, Warneski</b>
	<b>NAY</b>	<b>- None</b>
	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>- Niemann</b>
	<b>ABSENT</b>	<b>- DeFrancesco, Zgurzynski</b>

Environmental Protection Agency Grant for the “Community Action for a Renewed Environmental” Care Program

Chairwoman D. Kratzer reviewed the grant from the EPA to develop a watershed-based committee for long-term surface and ground water quality management and protection within the Wickecheoke and Lockatong Creek Watersheds. She read a letter from the New Jersey Water Supply Authority who is pursuing the grant. They are asking the Township to support and participate by writing a letter of support to the New Jersey Water Supply Authority and explain that they will participate on the project committee. The deadline application is March 17, 2008.

The Environmental Commission Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer has offered to write the Township Committee a letter explaining that the Environmental Commission has determined that this program fits well with the Township’s Master Plan goals, and they recommend that the Kingwood Township Committee submit a letter of support for this program.

It was moved by Lois Voronin, seconded by Sandra McNicol and carried to approve Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer to write a letter to the Township Committee for their support for the Community Action for a Renewed Environment CARE grant.

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>	<b>AYE</b>	<b>- Kratzer, Voronin, DeSapio, Hauck, Niciecki, McNicol, Warneski</b>
	<b>NAY</b>	<b>- None</b>
	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>- Niemann</b>
	<b>ABSENT</b>	<b>- DeFrancesco, Zgurzynski</b>

**Open Space – Report from Sandra McNicol**

Sandra McNicol reported on the meeting of the Open Space Advisory Committee/Agriculture Advisory Committee from February 7, 2008. She explained how the Committees have expanded and they are looking for addition new members to fill the positions. She reviewed properties being preserved, the Clinton property, and smart growth.

**Public Comment – Privilege of the Floor**

No comments

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**Adjournment**

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by Cynthia Niciecki and carried to adjourn the meeting at 10:04 P.M. **All** voted **Aye** on **Roll Call Vote**.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Cynthia L. Brown**  
**Secretary**