

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
May 25, 2010
7:30PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:40 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
Elaine Niemann
Sandy McNicol
Cindy Niciecki
Gail Ashley
David Posey

Absent

Joe Zgurzynski
Lois Voronin
Nicole Voigt
Richard Abbott

Privilege of the Floor

N/A

Approval of the April 27, 2010 Meeting Minutes

Motion and adoption of April 27, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Environmental Commission

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by Gail Ashley and carried to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2010 Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission.

2.

Roll Call Vote:	Aye	- D. Kratzer, G. Ashley, C. Niciecki, S. McNicol, D. Posey
	Nay	- None
	Abstain	- None
	Absent	- L. Voronin, Nicole Voigt

Correspondence

Copy of a Public Notice to the Environmental Commission from the New Jersey Water Supply Authority re: Application filled with the NJDEP for a Project Entitled Delaware and Raritan Canal Maintenance Dredging from Delaware River Inlet

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. She asked if the members had any comments. No comments from the members.

Copy of a Letter from Emil E. Gomosi to the Hunterdon – Somerset USDA Farm Service Agency re: Gombosi Kingwood Farms LLC, Wetland Designations Block 6, Lot 38

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. The Commission members discussed the wetland areas of the property. They are not sure what the resident is asking the Environmental Commission to do with situation. Debbie Kratzer will be looking into this further for next month.

Reports

Copy of Letter from Goldenbaum Bail Associates, Inc. re: Treatment Works Approval (TWA) Application for Charles Kirk – Block 17, Lot 17

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

Notice from the Dept. of Environ Protection – No Further Action Letter – re: Block 17, Lot 6 - Ronald Larsen, 872 Rt. 12, Frenchtown NJ 08825

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

Hunterdon County Soil Conservation District

N/A

Recycling Update/Coordinator Cynthia Niciecki

Cynthia Niciecki Recycling Report for May 2010
Volunteer for June 12, 2010

3.

Kingwood Recycling Coordinator's Report
May 24, 2010

First I want to thank David Posey for helping me at our Recycling Day this month. It rained with Thunder and lightning that day. The Girl Scouts were supposed to come that day, but they cancelled until better weather. I sent in the 2009 tonnage grant application to the State of NJ in April. The total tons reported was 2283.54, an increase of more than 900 tons from 2008, which was 1366.98 tons. The Township's new Recycling Ordinance had it's first reading on May 13. It was part of compliance with the Amendment to the County's Solid Waste Management Plan. We check the depot frequently to remove unacceptable items. The dumpsters are filling up approximately every 2 weeks. I attended the SWAC meeting at the County, and also serve on the Recycling Subcommittee of SWAC.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Niciecki

Cynthia Niciecki noted that Lois Voronin volunteered for Saturday, June 12, 2010. Everyone thanked Cynthia Niciecki for her report.

There was a question from the Commission members whether the Township pays for the dumpsters for recycling. Elaine Niemann responded by explaining that the Township does pay for the dumpsters through the recycling account. The Township is now collecting scrap metal and has collected \$560 for the weight of the metal. Elaine Niemann noted that this will help compensate towards the bills for recycling.

Discussion - Recycling Signs on Union Road and Barbertown Point Breeze Road

There was a discussion on adding two more signs at the end of Union Road and Barbertown Point Breeze Road. Gail Ashley feels that it would be a great idea and a reminder to the residents to bring their recycling to the garage.

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by Cynthia Niciecki and carried to authorize Secretary Keller to order two more signs, and to ask the Public Works Department to install the signs at the end of Union Road and Barbertown Point Breeze Road.

Roll Call Vote:	Aye	- D. Kratzer, G. Ashley, C. Niciecki, S. McNicol, D. Posey
	Nay	- None
	Abstain	- None
	Absent	- L. Voronin, Nicole Voigt

4.

Old Business

Water Testing through the Kingwood Township School

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer explained to everyone the process of the water testing and how it all worked out. She stated everything went well and that 130 total tests were done in the Township for Arsenic. Elaine Niemann thanked everyone that was involved with participating in the water testing and for making it successful. David Posey stated that his child's science teacher worked it into her lesson for the day, and explained to the children all about arsenic and how it affects the ground water.

Open Space & Recreation Plan - preliminary draft submitted by Banisch Associates and emailed to EC members. Any comments?

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer asked everyone if they had any comments on the Open Space & Recreation preliminary draft. David Posey had a few questions regarding conservation easements on page #3. There was a lengthy discussion on the easements and how it is important to let the residents know they are available. Gail Ashley asked about the historical and archeology aspects of the plan. Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that this will be looked into for the plan. The Commission members also discussed the Land Use Survey and how it will be incorporated in the plan. Elaine Niemann noted that she will forward the results to Debbie Kratzer. Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that there will be another draft after all the comments have been submitted.

Central Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team (CJISST) <http://www.cjisst.org/> - should we sign up?

Sandra McNicol reviewed a memorandum of understanding that she handed out to all the members present. She asked everyone to review the sections, and to bring their comments to next months meeting. Mrs. McNicol suggested that the Environmental Commission possibly joining the C.J.I.S Team.

ANJEC 2010 Smart Growth Planning Grant submitted for development of a Sustainability Plan Element of the Master Plan –we will be notified in the end of May if we get the grant

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that the Township should be finding out any day now if we received a grant.

Sustainable Jersey Program – Update

Elaine Niemann noted that there is nothing to update at this time. There was a brief discussion on the solar panels for the Township garage.

5.

Deer Overpopulation – Update

Cynthia Niciecki expressed that there are many baby deer everywhere in the Township.

New Business

Maintenance of trail on Township property between school and park

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that she has spoken to Mayor, James Burke and he will be meeting with the Public Works Department to inform them that they will be working together with the Environmental Commission on how the trail should be maintained. There was a brief discussion on the wetland areas, and several ideas of what could be done. Sandra McNicol noted that the Environmental Commission needs to find out more about the rules for the drainage areas to prevent the trail from getting wiped out and to work to keep the rocks out of the creek. It was suggested that a subcommittee be formed to work on the trail. Several members of the Environmental Commission volunteered to be on the subcommittee. Gail Ashley, Debbie Kratzer, and Sandra McNicol all volunteered. The commission discussed the possibility of getting in touch with the Township Engineer to look into the project.

Action Items:

Environmental Commission Site Plan Reviews

No site plans to review at this time.

Ideas for Community Day (September 18, 2010)

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer asked everyone for their ideas for Community Day. Sandra McNicol suggested putting out information on Arsenic. Gail Ashley suggested that the commission educate people on the Invasive Species.

Wastewater Management Plan

Elaine Niemann noted that the date has been pushed further away to year 2011.

MEL – Updates

No updates at this time.

Open Space

Open Space Member Sandra McNicol reviews Open Space/Agriculture Advisory Committee meeting of May 6, 2010

6.

Sandra McNicol gave a brief overview of the Open Space/Agriculture Advisory Committee meeting of May 6, 2010. She reviewed an update of the preservation signs that she is designing for the preserved farms in the township. She noted that June 12, 2010 the Hunterdon County Land Trust will be presenting “A Day on the Land” at the Frenchtown Preservation on Route 29.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that she prepared a draft thank you letter for everyone to review that she is sending to Shop Rite of Flemington for the re-useable bags they donated for the arsenic water testing. She also mentioned that there were several workshops and webinars available if anyone is interested, and if so, to let Secretary Keller know to sign them up for the classes.

Public Comment – Privilege of the Floor

Adjournment

It was moved by Gail Ashley, seconded by Sandra McNicol and carried to adjourn the meeting at 10:15PM. **All Voted Aye on Roll Call Vote.**

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia L. Keller,
Secretary