

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
October 26, 2010
7:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:38 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.

ROLL CALL

Present

Debbie Kratzer, Chairwoman
Elaine Niemann
Cynthia Niciecki
Sandra McNicol
David Posey
Joseph Zgurzynski (8:04)PM

Absent

Lois Voronin, Vice Chairwoman
Gail Ashley
Richard Abbott

Also present was a resident of Kingwood Township Jerry Fields, who is considering becoming a member of the Commission.

Approval of the September 28, 2010 Meeting Minutes

Motion and Adoption of September 28, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Environmental Commission

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by David Posey and carried to adopt the meeting minutes of September 28, 2010 Environmental Commission.

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

2.

Correspondence

N/A

Reports

Application for a permit extension for Judith Mandell, Block 26, Lot 19.03 - Letter of Interpretation

Chairwoman D. Kratzer stated that she has mapped out almost the entire property. She stated that it is located on Kingwood Locktown Road and that the property is mostly wetlands. Elaine Niemann stated that their L.O.I. will be part of their application. There was a discussion regarding the septic and whether it would be a problem. Sandra McNicol noted that the State may have an alternative septic plan.

Letter of Interpretation for Borough of Frenchtown Block 53, Lot 9.01 and Block 60, Lot 2.01 - Informational for Kingwood Township – A New Sewer Plant Is Planned to Be Constructed

Chairwoman D. Kratzer reported that this is for the Commissions information.

Kingwood Township 3rd Quarter Septic Completions Report – July, August, and September 2010

Chairwoman D. Kratzer reviewed.

Hunterdon County Soil Conservation District

N/A

Recycling Update/Coordinator Cynthia Niciecki

Cynthia Niciecki Recycling Report for October 2010

Cynthia Niciecki thanked Commission member David Posey for his help at the October Recycling Saturday.

Cynthia Niciecki gave a report of the following:

October 26, 2010 Kingwood Recycling Coordinator's Report

Thanks goes to David Posey for covering for me on Recycling Day on October 9, 2010

3.

I submitted the quarterly municipal recycling monitoring report to the County, which is now required. It included submitting documentation of materials collected at our recycling depot, notification and enforcement of our recycling ordinance, SWAC participation, and our municipal program funding.

Unacceptable items are being put in our commingled dumpster and also being dropped off between the two dumpsters. We remove them when possible.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Niciecki

Volunteer for November 13, 2010

Jerry Fields volunteered for Saturday, November 13, 2010 recycling. Cynthia Niciecki gave Mr. Fields an over view of what they usually do at recycling.

Old Business

Open Space & Recreation Plan

Chairwoman D. Kratzer noted that the Plan has been adopted, except for a few changes in the maps. She stated that Richard Dodds, Chairman of the Planning Board would be supplying the Township's Planner, David Banisch with the information to make the changes.

Sustainable Jersey Program – Update

Elaine Niemann stated that things have been inactive except for a New Jersey Board of Public Utilities Clean Energy Program Grant that the Township will be receiving. She explained what the Grant was all about. She noted that an auditor had come to look at the Township buildings to inspect and see what type of repairs the Township would be able to have done. She explained that the Grant would be approximately \$50,000 to replace furnaces, lighting, and possibly air conditioning in several of the buildings. She asked them to give the Township an estimate of how much it would cost to do other repairs that were not covered by the Grant, in case someday we would want to fix the additional items that need to be repaired. She is hoping to know more about this by next months November meeting.

Deer Overpopulation – Update

Sandra McNicol noted that this subject was discussed at the Open Space/Agriculture Advisory Committee meeting, and that they have not been able to get anywhere with resolving the problem.

4.

Maintenance of trail on Township property between school and park (Form Subcommittee)

Chairwoman D. Kratzer asked the members if they would like to be a part of the subcommittee to discuss the maintenance of the trail between the school and the park grounds. Members Sandra McNicol, Jerry Fields and Debbie Kratzer all volunteered to meet as a subcommittee the week of November 1st, to discuss the School and Park Walkway and its future maintenance.

Solar Ordinance – Update

Sandra McNicol, who is also a member of the Planning Board explained that the Planning Board had a special meeting, which was the second meeting this month for the solar ordinance with the Planning Board. She reviewed what was discussed at their regular monthly meeting and the solar ordinance update and changes. She explained that the Township's Planner David Banisch has made several changes to the ordinance, which the Board took care of at the special meeting. Sandra explained the importance of statewide soils, vegetation and endangered species. She noted that there is a 20 acre requirement for a minimum size and nothing less for each solar farm. She feels the Planning Board spent a lot of time, and did their best on the ordinance. She expressed that she is very comfortable that the Township has a plan now. Chairwoman D. Kratzer discussed forwarding additional information regarding endangered species to Planner David Banisch. She explained that the information she has is some ideas from other towns, which may be useful on our ordinance.

Application Submitted by Garden Solar, LLC to Engineering and Land Planning Assoc. -
Re: Block 15, Lot 4.03 873 State Rt. 12

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that this was sent to the Township Planning Board to Review.

The River Bank at Byram

http://lowerdelawarewildandscenic.org/RiverBank/Album_RiverBank.htm

David Posey stated that he was going to seek out the Superintendent of the State Parks system, but would prefer to get in touch with him in the middle of next summer. He feels that the rain has washed the garbage away in that area.

Stormwater – Local Public Education Approved Activities and Points

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. She noted that she will be in touch with the Townships Engineer to discuss the Township's earned points.

5.

Homeowner Well Sampling Results for June thru August 2010 from MEL Chemical

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer volunteered to contact the representative from MEL.

New Business

ANJEC Webinar on Open Space Planning for Urban, Suburban and Rural Communities
Tuesday, October 26 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm Via Webinar

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer stated that this was just information for the Commission members to have in case they were interested in participating, but realized that it was scheduled for tonight.

Action Items:

Environmental Commission Site Plan Reviews
Block 12, Lot 16 and 16.01

A subcommittee was formed to review the property. The subcommittee to work on the site plan will be David Posey and Debbie Kratzer. Elaine Niemann explained an update of the data of where they are at with the Board of Adjustment.

Wastewater Management Plan

Elaine Niemann stated that nothing new on the septic ordinance at this time. Sandra McNicol explained that she will be in touch with Jack MacConnell, Chairman of the Well Ordinance Committee, to get the Well Committee together and discuss the septic ordinance. She noted that she has sent the Board of Health samples of other septic ordinances to review.

MEL – Updates

Elaine Niemann and Gail Ashley will be getting together to review more information.

Central Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team

Sandra McNicol encouraged all the members to go on the CJIS Strike Team website to get more involved.

Open Space

Open Space Chairwoman Sandra McNicol Reviews Open Space/Ag Advisory Committee
Meeting of October 7, 2010

6.

Sandra McNicol reviewed the OS/Ag meeting of October 7th. She reviewed the fall hike they had at the Augustine Preserved Farm on Horseshoe Bend Road. She stated it was a beautiful piece of land. She noted they toured the barn, saw horses, and that it was a very nice day. She explained that they ordered a preservation sign for the Ukarish Property and that it should be coming in any day now.

Sandra explained that they discussed the solar ordinance, a preserved sign for the Lockatong Wildlife Management Program, and that Vice Chairman Richard Dodds was working close with the Hunterdon Land Trust regarding trail making on properties along Route 29.

Chairwoman D. Kratzer noted an update of a map of the landscape project for Habitat ratings. She also read aloud information on Grant proposals through EENJ and stated that she will be looking into this further.

Public Comment – Privilege of the Floor

Adjournment

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by Cynthia Niciecki and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:34PM. **All voted Aye on Roll Call Vote.**

Respectfully submitted,

**Cynthia L. Keller,
Secretary**

