

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

May 22, 2012

7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:36P.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 by publication of the notice in the Hunterdon County Democrat and Courier News on February 9, 2012 and by telefaxing a copy of the notice to the Star Ledger, and the Express Times on February 1, 2012. A copy of the notice was also posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building and Post Office on February 1, 2012.

In order to ensure full public participation in this meeting, all members of this Commission, 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
Gail Ashley
David Posey
Sandra McNicol
Lois Voronin
Cynthia Niciecki
Elaine Niemann

Absent

Joseph Zgurzynski
Richard Abbott
Timothy Cahalin

Also present at the meeting was Lynn Porter, the Township's new Recycling Coordinator.

Minutes

- (1). Approval of the April 24, 2012 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by David Posey and carried to approve the meeting minutes of the April 24, 2012 regular meeting minutes for the Environmental Commission.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye	- Kratzer, Voronin, Ashley, McNicol, Posey,
Nay	- None
Abstain	- Niciecki,
Absent	- Cahalin

2.

Correspondence

(2). Article – Kingwood Township Plants Trees for Arbor Day

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. Cynthia Niciecki and Sandra McNicol stated that it was a really a nice day and that everything was well organized. Sandra McNicol stated that there was a lot of positive feedback on facebook about the day. Everyone had a fun time planting and being together.

(3). Article – News From NJDEP Re: Urges Residents to Conserve Water

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. The Commission discussed the recent drought that the area has had, and stated that it has improved a bit since all the rain recently. They discussed the article and some of the ways to conserve water when there is a threat of a drought. Sandra McNicol explained that the streams and reservoirs seem to be filling up, and that they are looking better.

Reports

(4). Analytical Report from QC Labs Samples from DEP Drinking Water – Park Pavilion

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

(5). Analytical Report from QC Labs from DEP – Outside Spigot at Resident Home

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. The Commission discussed the numbers and results of the tests. David Posey offered to find out from the D.E.P. additional information regarding the answers to questions the Commission had asked about these results.

Recycling Update – Lynn Porter, Recycling Coordinator

Lynn Porter the township's new recycling coordinator was present and introduced herself. She reviewed an update on what she has been doing regarding recycling, and clean communities for the township. She stated that she has met with Allen Dilly, Road Supervisor and Recycling Coordinator for Franklin Township, who has assisted her with the tonnage report that is sent to the State each year. She explained that the State is not very happy if the tonnage report is not accurate. She reviewed the process of collecting the reports from each of the businesses in the township. She noted that the tonnage report was due by April 30, 2012. She explained that Raritan Valley Disposal issues the township one report for all the tonnage picked up from curbsides, and also the recycling center in the township. She stated that an additional report is submitted from the commercial businesses that are in the township. She noted that she spoke to a supervisor from Raritan Valley Disposal to make sure all the reports were correct. She expressed, that obtaining the lists from all the business has been a big job.

3.

She explained that the Department of Public Works have been in charge of monitoring and scheduling the bins. She explained the programs that are being put together with the local scouts and churches for clean communities to volunteer their service. She stated that she has spoken to Richard Dodds, and Heidi Diminick, who have offered to work with some of the programs, such as project graduation. She stated that she spoke to a woman from Don Jon Recycling, who is willing to help our township out by giving us ideas for different programs available. She explained that the township's D.P.W. Supervisor, Mark Petro, and the township's Engineer, Tom Decker have also been involved. Ms. Porter explained that several residents have been calling to find out how to dispose of air conditioners, since they cannot be brought to the recycling center due to the freon in the systems. She noted that there are several areas in the state of New Jersey that accept air conditioners for a small fee. She explained that she is working on finding out locations so she will be able to let the residents know where they can go to dispose of them. She noted that she is also working with Stem Brothers of Milford NJ, who except old propane tanks. She explained that they currently charge a fee of five dollars a tank to dispose of them. She is trying to set something up with them, so that the residents would not have to pay for the tank to be dropped off, but be sponsored by the township with a program. Lynn explained that she had spoken to a representative from the State regarding clean communities. She explained that they would like the township to fill out an application, which she is currently working on. She reported that she has ordered a back pack blower, cones, vests, and gloves with clean community funds. She noted that she spoke to DPW Supervisor, Mark Petro regarding the township sweeper needing repair, which would also be covered. Ms. Porter explained that they are working very hard to buy items from the local businesses, so we can support them as much as possible. Sandra McNicol asked if doggy waste bags are paid for with clean community's funds. Ms. Porter responded, and stated that a local business sells the doggie bags and, yes they will be paid for by clean community's funds. Sandra McNicol stated that she would like to see a kiosk and doggie bags at the dog leash free area, and also in the parking lots of the Horseshoe Bend Park. Lynn Porter responded and explained that clean communities funds will pay for signs, kiosk and the doggie bags. Lynn Porter stated that she will be purchasing new recycling and trash containers that are good quality products, which will not fill up with water. There was a discussion regarding whether the public should carry their own garbage and doggie dropping out with them, or if the township should supply containers for disposal. It was decided that it would be best for Horseshoe Bend Park, to carry in and carry out, and for a sign to be posted up. There were suggestions that recyclable containers be purchased in the future for inside the buildings at the Horseshoe Bend Park. This would be for the people that are renting the space. It was suggested that Lynn Porter call, Rose Dipple the township's custodian to find out if containers are needed at the Old Fairview School. Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer suggested ordering fold up recycling receptacles so they can be stored and available during park events. She suggested that the township order some for Horseshoe Bend Park. Lynn Porter shared her e-mail lporter@kingwoodtownship.com to everyone. Gail Ashley suggested educating the students at the Kingwood Township School by speaking to them about recycling. The Commission suggested that Lynn find out for the fall season about meeting with someone from the school and possibly set up a date to educate the children on how important it is to recycle.

4.

Old Business

Kingwood SEIA (Statement of Environmental Impact and Assessment) and Threatened and Endangered Ordinance Draft - Review

The Commission Members reviewed the remaining categories of the draft ordinance. They also reviewed what they worked on at last month. Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that these suggestions and comments, will be sent to Planning Board Attorney David Pierce, so he can review what changes that the Commission has added. She noted that he will then prepare and complete the ordinance before it is sent to the township for introduction. There was a suggestion to also contact Planner, David Banisch to review their comments on the draft ordinance.

Invasive Species Strike Team Training 6/19 (Raindate 6/21) At Horseshoe Bend Park

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. She noted that it will start at 6:00PM.

Invasive Species Field Stewards

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer explained that these are people who identify invasive species. She stated that they will come one day to the Horseshoe Bend Park, and possibly another open space property in the Township and educate anyone that is interested. She will let everyone know when there is a date.

Old Business Continued

Sustainable Jersey – Update

Elaine Niemann stated that Tim Cahalin has been working on the application for the energy audit and hopes to have it completed by next month's meeting.

MEL – Update

No new update at this time.

Forest Harvest Bill - Update

Sandra McNicol explained that she is waiting for the State Environmental Commission to post the revised bill. She stated that so far she has not seen anything yet, and that it was supposed to be posted on their website on the 26th of April. She stated that she will continue looking for the revisions.

Driveway Ordinance – Update

5.

The Commission has decided to discuss this next month.

Site Plan Review

Syncarph Alethea II LLC. Block 21, Lot 1 Solar Farm

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer suggested that a subcommittee get together and look this over and review the plans before the next month's planning board meeting in June. She asked for volunteers to meet with her to review the plans. The Commission Members will be in contact with Debbie Kratzer to set up a date.

New Business

Community Day Planning – Well Testing and Septic Cleaning Discount, Table Space Reserved, Discuss Preparation

The Commission noted that the details of the well testing and septic cleaning will be discussed next month. They advised Secretary Keller to sign them up for several vendor tables for Community Day.

Open Space

Sandy McNicol – Reports on Open Space Advisory/Agriculture Advisory Committee meeting from May 1, 2012.

Sandra McNicol reported on the Open Space and Ag meeting of May 1st, 2012. She explained that the Open Space and Ag Committees reviewed their budgets for the Open Space Fund. She reviewed properties for possible future preservation. She stated that the Trstensky property has been preserved, and will be named the "Muddy Run Preserve." She explained that this property is near the Muddy Run Water Shed. Sandra explained that she had good news on another piece of property the township has not had to spend any money to purchase. She explained that while she was looking on nj.com, she saw that the deeds were listed for each township. She stated that she saw under Delaware Twp., a property by the name of Rich was listed, which is actually in Kingwood Twp. She explained that this property backs up with the Lockatong Wildlife Management Area, and is a land lot piece of property. She explained that the property is approximately 15 acres, with some stream frontage, and is located on the other side of the Tumble Falls area. She explained that this was purchased through the Green Acres Program.

Webinar

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that ANJEC has a webinar called, "Regulatory Tools" to protect water in your community. She stated that it is Tuesday, June 5th from 7 to 8PM, and that anyone interested can meet at the municipal to watch it together.

6.

Volunteer for Recycling

David Posey volunteered for Saturday June 9th, 2012 from 9:00a.m. until 12:00noon at the recycling depot.

Concern of a Speed Bump on Route 519

Gail Ashley briefly mentioned a concern that she had with a drainage area along the road that was worked on along Route 519. She stated that it was something like a speed bump that was put in that is connecting the area of the road. She has tried to contact the county about this concern. Elaine Niemann stated that she will be contact with the county to find out if something can be done.

Sandra McNicol stated that there is now a map that shows both the open space and preserved properties in the township on the website.

Public Comment – Privilege of the Floor

Adjournment

It was moved by Gail Ashley, seconded by Sandra McNicol and carried to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 PM. **All** voted **Aye** on **Roll Call Vote**.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia L. Keller,
Secretary