

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 24, 2015
7:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:42P.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 the Courier News on January 29th, 2015, and by telefaxing a copy of the notice to the Express Times on January 21, 2015. A copy of the notice was also posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building on January 21, 2015.

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
Sandra McNicol
David Posey
Cynthia Niciecki
Diana Haywood
Joe Zgurzynski

Absent

Gail Ashley
Timothy Cahalin
Lois Voronin
Willard Reasoner

Public Comment – Privilege of the Floor

Robert O’Neil, Principal Watershed Protection Specialist from the New Jersey Water Supply Authority Present to Speak about Kingwood Park Project

Robert O’Neil was present and explained that they are ready to do more planting now that it is springtime. He explained that the children had a great time last year and they will be inviting them back again to plant. He handed out a map of where the planting will take place. He explained that last year they concentrated on the certain areas and that they would like to continue working on a few of the areas that they did not complete.

2.

He feels that it may be a little more dangerous and will be asking children that are a little older. He explained that there is a small window in time that they have to plant the sticks. There was a discussion of when they will start at the Kingwood Park. He noted that they will be taking the sticks from a stream from Union Township depending on the conditions. If it's okay with the Environmental Commission, he stated they will plan to meet at the Kingwood Park to plant on the 11th of April or the 18th of April. Robert O'Neil stated that they will not be planting as many as last year. The Commission agreed that if the weather and the conditions are good the 11th of April will be the date and the 18th of April will be the alternate date.

Everyone thanked Robert O'Neil for coming to the meeting for approval of dates to plant at the Kingwood Park. Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer will notify the Parks and Recreation Committee to let them know of the project planting that will be done on April 11th and an alternate rain date of April 18th.

Minutes

(1). Approval of February 24, 2015 Environmental Commission Reorganization and Regular Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by David Posey and carried to approve the February 24, 2015 Environmental Commission Reorganization and Regular Meeting Minutes.

Comments or Corrections: No comments or corrections

Roll Call Vote:	Aye	- Kratzer, McNicol, Posey, Niciecki
	Nay	- None
	Abstain	- None
	Absent	- Voronin, Ashley, , Cahalin

Correspondence

Notice of upcoming meetings/workshops:

Hunterdon County Shade Tree Commission – Review of March 11, 2015 Mtg.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

(2). For ANJEC Members – Tuesday, April 28th – Resilient Communities

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. The Commission Members noted that this does not really pertain to this area, but that it is available for anyone that is interested.

3.

Recycling News and Update

Update from Recycling Coordinator Sandra McNicol

Recycling Coordinator Sandra McNicol gave an update on the recycling center. She reviewed the recycling flyer that she prepared for the township mailing. Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that the flyer looked really good and thanked Sandra McNicol for doing a great job.

Sandra McNicol noted that she tried to explain several things to make it easier for the public to understand the rules and regulations at the center. Sandra McNicol noted that there is good news at the DPW. She explained that DPW employee Ryan Osborn downloaded an AP on his I-phone to contact the disposal company to pick up the full dumpsters and bring empty ones. She explained that this is much easier while working on the roads.

Sandra McNicol noted that the township is recycling approximately 6 dumpsters a month. She noted that she is working on the yearly Recycling Report. She stated that she will be attending the SWAC meeting at the end of the month.

She explained that she is going to look into finding interested individuals who may want to watch over the recycling center each day for a minimal salary. She explained that this is to stop all the items that are coming into the recycling center that are not allowed.

The Commission Members expressed that the (lean to) at the recycling center really looks nice and is doing a good job keeping everything inside the building. Sandra McNicol explained how they could install camera, but the township has decided not to do that at this time.

Reports

(2a). Freshwater Wetlands Letter of Interpretation for 1121 State Hwy 12, Block 6, Lot 21 – Paper Copy at Meeting for Review

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed the information and compared it to the wetlands map. She noted that there are no wetlands sited on that site. The Commission reviewed the report.

Hunterdon County Soil Conservation District

(3). Report of Compliance and Letter of Conditional Certification Block 14, L 14.01

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

(4). Temporary Report of Compliance – Block 14, Lot 38.03

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

4.

New Business

(5). Annual Report for 2014

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer will work on the Annual Report for next month.

Old Business

JCP&L – Multi – Permit Application for Power Line Right-of-Way Vegetative and Structural Maintenance – For Your Info

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer briefly reviewed.

Action Items:

Sustainable Jersey – Update

(5a). E-Mail from Nathan Charron – Re: Dates to Meet with Sustainable Jersey Team

The Commission Members briefly reviewed the information from Nathan Charron. It was decided that Monday, April 13, 2015 to propose to the Kingwood Sustainable Kingwood Team to schedule a meeting with Nathan Charron to help out with the Sustainable Jersey Program and to get certified.

MEL – Update

Gail Ashley was absent – No update at this time.

On Going Water Resource Inventory:

PennEast Pipeline:

(6). Final Letter to FERC – From EC Chair, Debbie Kratzer

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. Sandra McNicol noted that she and Debbie Kratzer attended the most recent pipeline meetings. She gave a brief overview of the meetings. She noted they there was a speaker there who explained how dangerous it will be to drill with all the arsenic in the area, which she stated will come out in all different ways. She explained that there were a lot of people that were so supportive and working hard to express reasons why the pipeline should not be constructed here in Kingwood Township. She noted that there were several Government Officials present supporting everyone that is against the pipeline.

5.

Horseshoe Bend Park – Update

(7). Ernst Seeds Quote – Pollinator Meadow Project

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed the quote from Ernst Seeds that she obtained for the seeds for the Pollinator Meadow Project.

Chairman Debbie Kratzer explained that they will be working on the details of what they plan on doing very soon, and in the fall they will be planting the plants. She explained that Jack MacConnell and Richard Dodds will be helping out with preparing the ground and the planting the seeds.

Joe Zgurzynski noted that he wanted to share a bit of information about two individuals that do this for a living. He told the story of a field of wild flowers that he helped plant. He gave a few local names for resources to contact for help to plant the seeds for the project.

Kingwood Park - Update

Discussed earlier with Robert O’Neil, Principal Watershed Protection Specialist from the New Jersey Water Supply Authority.

Site Plan Review

N/A

Open Space

Sandy McNicol – Update on Open Space and Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting of February 3, 2015

Sandra McNicol noted that there was no meeting in the month of March. She gave an update from the February 3, 2015 Open Space and Agricultural Meeting. She explained that a piece of property was recently preserved on Union Road. She also noted that the Decker property is now a preserved piece of property. She explained how the Decker family had a bench made for the Hunterdon Land Trust in dedication for their mother to thank them for their help in preserving the property.

Adjournment

It was moved by Cynthia Niciecki, seconded by Sandra McNicol and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:45PM. **All voted Aye on Roll Call Vote.**

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia L. Keller
Secretary