

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 24, 2016
7:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:35P.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 February 4, 2016, and by telefaxing a copy of the notice to the Express Times on January 28, 2016. A copy of the notice was also posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building on January 28, 2016.

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
Lois Voronin
Gail Ashley
Sandra McNicol
Diana Haywood
Timothy Cahalin
Cynthia Niciecki

Absent

Joe Zgurzynski
David Posey
Willard Reasoner

Public Comments/Privilege of the Floor

There were no public comments at this time.

Minutes

(1). Approval of March 22, 2016 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by Gail Ashley and carried to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2016 Environmental Commission Regular meeting.

2.

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

(2). Approval of April 26, 2016 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by Gail Ashley and carried to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2016 Environmental Commission Regular meeting with the following correction:

Page#5 – Under Site Plan Review – Second sentence should read: “ Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer asked if a “**hydro**-geological report” was required to be done? Adding the word in bold to the sentence.

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

Correspondence

Notice of upcoming meetings/workshops: Reminder of Dates

N/A

*Timothy Cahalin arrived to the meeting at this time 7:45P.M.

Recycling News and Update

Update from Recycling Coordinator Sandra McNicol

Sandra McNicol reported that there was a road clean up the last Saturday in April with the (DVAA) Delaware Valley Athletic Association. She noted that the members parked at the Idell Preserve while they cleaned up around Tumble Idell Road and Hill Road for approximately two hours.

Sandra McNicol briefly reviewed the times and dates for the Clean-Up Program at the DPW. Sandra McNicol explained there was a tire cleanup of all the tires around town and noted there were quite a few tires collected. She noted that the grant funding through Clean Communities paid for this tire removal charge. She explained that she has received \$20,000 from the Clean Communities Funds Grant for 2016. She noted that she has been working on the tonnage report.

Reports

(3). Notice from NJDEP – Unregulated Heating Oil Tank Program – Bl 12, L54 Route 519

3.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

- (4). Notice from NJDEP – Unregulated Heating Oil Tank Program – Bl 8, L27.05 599 Oak Grove Road

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

Hunterdon County Soil Conservation District

New Business

- (5). Environmental Commission – Annual Report Draft
To be on the next month's meeting agenda.

Water Testing for Arsenic and Boron with (NJGS) New Jersey Geological & Water Survey Tentatively for May 17 – 19 - UPDATE

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed the water testing program that the State has offered to do for Kingwood and Alexandria residents for Arsenic and Boron. She explained that bottles were supplied to the local grammar school for each child to send home and a return date for them to return for pickup. This was no fee for the public and noted that there was a grant for this testing for the residents of Kingwood Township since the levels are the highest in the State of New Jersey.

Gail Ashley reviewed a map of the bedrock, which she handed out and provided to everyone. She explained where the arsenic has been found in the area. She noted that Kingwood Township is one of the highest tested areas for arsenic and boron in the State of New Jersey.

- (6). Flyer for Water Testing – Handed Out at Municipal Building

Old Business

Update on Chris Citgo

Update from the Twp. Board of Health

Secretary Keller gave a brief review of what the Township's Board of Health discussed. She explained that the Board of Health has forwarded the information to the Township Attorney to review.

Sustainable Aquaculture Systems, Inc.

Update – Diana Haywood

- (6a). SASI, Franklin Township, Hunterdon County, New Jersey MC Project No. 13000918B

Diana Haywood obtained this report from Franklin Township and requested that this be discussed this evening. The Commission Members discussed the report.

4.

Diana Haywood noted that this was the report from the last hearing Franklin Township had regarding Sustainable Aquaculture Systems, Inc. Diana Haywood noted that the next Public Hearing for Franklin Township is scheduled to be on June 8, 2016. She noted that Kingwood Township's hydro geologist will not be able to attend that meeting. The Commission asked Diana Haywood to contact Franklin Township to obtain more updated information on the Aquaculture Systems report for the current hearing. She noted that they have scheduled another hearing since the public hearing was not properly noticed to the townships regarding their first hearing.

(6b). List of Items Available for Review At Franklin Township

The Commissioners feel that there is so much information to review and they would like to have more time to review it before the June 8th, public hearing. They would like to see the public hearing postponed until next month or until our Township Engineer and Attorneys get a chance to look at their plans. Diana Haywood noted that she will be in contact with the Township Clerk to find out if Kingwood can have some of the items they listed available sent to the Clerk and the Planning Board Attorney. The Commission would like Diana Haywood to see what she can do to obtain more information before their next hearing.

Action Items:

Sustainable Jersey – Kingwood Green Team Update – Diana Haywood, Willard Reasoner
Timothy Cahalin

Diana Haywood noted

Fracking Ordinance – Update

Diana Haywood noted that the following ordinance was adopted on first reading by the Kingwood Township Committee:

Ordinance No. 18 – 07 – 2016 – An Ordinance by Kingwood Banning the Use of Hydraulic Fracturing in the Municipality and Amending and Supplementing the “Code of the Township of Kingwood, New Jersey” in Connection Therewith

She explained that the public hearing for the ordinance will be held at the Kingwood Municipal Building on June 2, 2016 at 7:00P.M.

Sandra McNicol noted that Franklin Township has also introduced the same ordinance.

MEL – Update

Update from Gail Ashley

5.

Gail Ashley gave a brief update of the results of the letter that was sent out to the residents near MEL. She explained that she met with three families in the past week. She reviewed what she discussed with them and the concerns the Environmental Commission has regarding the water from MEL. She noted that one of the homeowners supplied a copy of their water tests. She reviewed the results of their tests. She explained that several of the homeowners have been supplied with bottled water for the past 20 years and some of them purchase their own water. Gail Ashley noted that she will follow up and meet with additional neighbors of MEL if they are interested.

(7). MEL Report – May 2014

This is a document Gail Ashley has reviewed and supplied for the EC to review.

(8). MEL Notification CEA Form

Gail Ashley reviewed a map in the (CEA) Classification Exception Area and discussed this detailed map of the homes and the location of the wells.

It was moved by Gail Ashley, seconded by Sandra McNicol and carried to approve to prepare a letter from the Environmental Commission to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection with the EC concerns of the recent (CEA) Classification Exception Area regarding MEL Chemicals, Inc.

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

Timothy Cahalin gave a brief review of his trip down to the NJDEP to review files regarding MEL. He noted that he has requested additional files to obtain and will review these possibly before the next EC meeting in June.

Slacktown Well

(9). E-Mail from Mary MacConnell/Jack MacConnell Re: Slacktown Well

(10). Slacktown Well Situation Report First and Final

(11). Slacktown Road Well

(12). Slacktown Road Well IMG 1549

The Commission reviewed the pictures sent from the Emergency Management Coordinator, Jack MacConnell. Sandra McNicol gave a brief review of the leaks and noted that she went and investigated the leaking wells. She explained that they drill a hole in the side to drain the water, but that it has been leaking for many years. She noted that there are a lot of farms on Slacktown Road and that they are looking into expanding the farms.

6.

The Environmental Commission has concerns regarding the leaking wells. The Commission all agreed they are very concerned about the leaking wells and would like them to be stopped.

PennEast Pipeline: - Update
Project Update for the PennEast Pipeline Project

(13). Letter to Mayor Haywood Re: Green Acres Diversion Process PennEast Project

Mayor Haywood reviewed the letter from Green Acres Diversion Process PennEast Project. She explained that she spoke to the Township Attorney and it was suggested that we do nothing at this time.

(14). Letter to Hunterdon Land Trust Director from Penn East – Re: Green Acres Diversion Process PE Project

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

(15). Alexandria Twp. – Banning the Use of Hydraulic Fracturing – Public Hearing Notice July 13, 2016

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. She noted that their public hearing will be on July 13th, 2016 at 7:35p.m.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed the meeting of May 23, 2016 with the Lower Delaware National Wild and Scenic River Management Council. She noted there was a guest speaker, who talked about “Drinking Water, Arsenic and Natural Gas Pipelines”. She noted it was very interesting.

Horseshoe Bend Park – Update

Pollinator Meadow Project – Update

Sandra McNicol reviewed an update of the sign she is working on for the Pollinator Meadow Project. She has things started and hoped that the company she has inquired with can make the sign. She described the items that will be on the sign, which will explain what is going on in the Pollinator Meadow. She noted that this will be located on the south entrance of the Horseshoe Bend Park.

Site Plan Review

N/A

Open Space

Sandy McNicol – Update on Open Space and Agricultural Meeting of May 3, 2016

7.

Sandra McNicol gave a brief review of the meeting of May 3rd, 2016. She talked about the dedication, which was on May 21st for the Horseshoe Bend East property, formerly the Church property. She gave a brief review of the history of the property. She explained how several volunteers helped cleaned up the property and the home on the property for the dedication. She noted it was a very nice event and everyone who attended were able to tour the home and walk the grounds.

Adjournment

It was moved by Lois Voronin, seconded by Gail Ashley and carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:35P.M. All voted Aye on Roll Call Vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia L. Keller, Secretary
Kingwood Township