

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REORGANIZATION AND REGULAR
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 22, 2019
7:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The Reorganization and Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:37 P.M. Secretary Walters called the meeting to order and read the following notice requirements.

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 on January 31, 2019 and the Courier News on January 27, 2019, and by telefaxing a copy of the notice to the Express Times on January 23, 2019. A copy of the notice was also posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building on January 23, 2019.

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
Mara Tippet
Gail Ashley
Lois Voronin
Sandra McNicol
Ralph Celebre

Absent

Maureen Synchron
Timothy Cahalin
Cynthia Niececki
Willard Reasoner

Reorganize

Nomination for Chairperson

It was moved by L. Voronin, seconded by S. McNicol and carried to nominate **Debbie Kratzer** Chairperson for the Environmental Commission for 2019.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye	- Kratzer, Tippet, Ashley, Celebre, McNicol, Voronin
Nay	- None
Abstain	- None
Absent	- Cahalin

It was moved by G. Ashley, seconded by S. McNicol and carried to close the nomination for Chairperson

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

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer took over the meeting at this time.

Nomination for Vice Chairperson

It was moved by S. McNicol, seconded by G. Ashley and carried to nominate **Mara Tippet** Vice Chairperson for the Environmental Commission for 2019.

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

It was moved by S. McNicol, seconded by R. Celebre and carried to close the nomination for Vice-Chairperson

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

Motion and Approval of Scheduled Meeting Dates for 2019

January 22, 2019	May 28, 2019	September 24, 2019
February 26, 2019	June 25, 2019	October 22, 2019
March 26, 2019	July 23, 2019	November 19, 2019
April 23, 2019	August 27, 2019	December 17, 2019

It was moved by M. Tippet, seconded by S. McNicol and carried to approve scheduled meeting dates for the Environmental Commission for 2019.

All Members in Attendance Voted Aye on Roll Call Vote.

Motion and approval of local newspapers (Hunterdon County Democrat and Courier News) for advertisements

It was moved by L. Voronin, seconded by G. Ashley and carried to approve the local newspapers (Hunterdon County Democrat and Courier News) for advertisements for the Environmental Commission for 2019.

All Members in Attendance Voted Aye on Roll Call Vote

Public Comments

N/A

Approval of December 18, 2018 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

It was moved by S. McNicol, and seconded by M. Tippet and carried to approve the December 18, 2018 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes.

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

Correspondence

HCSCD – Letter of Certification 185 Ridge Rd., Block 5 Lot 5

Reviewed

LOI Application Withdrawal Block 33, Lot 6.02 569 County Road 519 Cell Tower

Secretary Walters to ask the Planning Board if the Verizon Cell Tower proposal has been withdrawn and report back to the Committee.

Lower Delaware Wild and Scenic River 2019 Mini Grants

The Mini Grants are valued at between \$1,000.00 and \$2,000.00.

M. Tippet suggested applying for a grant that could be used for Open Space walks throughout the Township. The money could be used specifically to pay for experts to host environmental instructional walks. Grant application deadline is February 22, 2019

LOI Block 19 Lot 14.05, 8 Shrope Lane

Reviewed

“Okay to issue Building Permit Marshall’s Pond Block 28, Lot 11.07, 2 Marshall’s Road

Reviewed

Clean Energy Program Direct Install

D. Kratzer reviewed M. Synchron’s email regarding “Greening of the Pipeline”. This project encourages municipalities to come together to bid for cheaper electric rates with a higher renewable component. Those who use JCP&L for electricity will automatically be enrolled with a 3rd party provider and will receive lower rates.

M. Tippet will contact Donnelly Energy who has offered to perform a Municipal audit.

Notice of upcoming meetings/workshops: Reminder of Dates

National Radon Action Month Seminar January 28, 2019 – 9:30am-4:00pm at Foster Lane Conference Center Flemington.

Committee members felt that this seminar is geared more toward professionals in the Radon industry.

April 6th Tree Giveaway at Horseshoe Bend Park.

If Kingwood Township is awarded the Roots for Rivers Tree Planting Grant the planting date will be April 13th.

Spring Clean Up day tentatively planned for the middle of February. Confirmation of date to follow.

Reports

D. Kratzer will Submit 2018 Environmental Annual Report at the February meeting.

Action Items

N/A

Other Matters

CoCoRahs – Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network

G. Ashley presented information on the CoCoRahs project that she has been a part of for the past ten years. This Organization is a national network of people who collect data on rain, hail and snow using specific measuring tools and post their data results to www.cocorahs.org website.

The New Jersey Network is coordinated by the State Climatologist, David Robinson and Mat Gerbush of Rutgers University.

A Kingwood Township Precipitation chart was reviewed. This plot measured precipitation from 2010 to date and shows the amount of precipitation in New Jersey has been increasing. The 30 year average in Kingwood is 49”/year. In 2018 the total precipitation was 66”.

Information posted on the Kingwood Township website.

S. McNicol stated that she believes the salt use in the County to date this year has been excessive. She suggested that the Committee write letters to Department of Transportation concerning this overuse.

When asked if Kingwood Township has an Ordinance on brining as opposed to salt use. Ms. McNicol stated that she had discussed this option with the previous Department of Public Works supervisor who stated that the Township would have to buy new equipment in order to use brining.

A suggestion was made that the Sustainable Grant, if awarded, could be used to purchase equipment for the DPW to use brining equipment.

Old Business

Sustainable Jersey Grant Application

M. Tippet will be applying for one of the Sustainable Jersey grants. The Committee discussed ways to best utilize any awarded grant money. In addition to the possible purchase of DPW equipment for brining a suggestion was made to use funds to update the Kingwood National

Resource inventory which will be expiring at the end of 2019. The Sustainable Jersey application deadline is February 15th.

Recycling News and Update

S. McNicol reported that she will be sending a letter out to all residents regarding recycling since there continues to be a problem with non-recyclable items being dropped off at the DPW. The letter will outline in great detail what can and cannot be recycled. It was noted that both Franklin and Delaware Townships have closed their recycle depots due to this same problem.

Tonnage reports are due. Letters will be mailed to all businesses by April 2019.

Sustainable Kingwood

Kingwood Township has achieved 135 points out of 150 points that are necessary to obtain the Bronze level of Sustainable Jersey.

Horseshoe Bend Park – News and Update

N/A

Open Space and Agricultural Advisory Committee

There are approximately 12-13 properties that are in various stages of preservation at this time.

Luxfer/MEL

The Commission plans to write a letter to Luxfer requesting an update on the status of the clean-up. The letter will also request clarification on some of the topics that were not clear at the December 4, 2017 meeting.

PennEast Pipeline Update:

Penn East is currently within the Township collecting data.

Adjournment

It was moved by G. Ashley and seconded by S. McNicol and carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:20PM.

All voted Aye on Roll Call Vote.

Respectfully submitted by,
Michele Tipton-Walters
Secretary