

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 18, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:34 p.m. Chairperson Deborah 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 December 21, 2017, and by telefaxing a copy of the notice to the Express Times on December 14, 2017. A copy of the notice was also posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building on December 14, 2017.

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

Deborah Kratzer
Gail Ashley
Ralph Celebre
Mara Tippet
Sandra McNicol

Absent

Cynthia Niciecki
Willard Reasoner
Lois Voronin
Timothy Cahalin
Maureen Synchronick

Public Comments

N/A

Approval of November 27, 2018 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Gail Ashley and seconded by Sandra McNicol and carried to approve the November 27, 2018 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Correspondence

Stop SRL Pipeline
Reviewed

Notice of upcoming meetings/workshops: Reminder of Dates

N/A

Reports

Zmuda Property, Block 33, Lot 14.06 Boundary Line Adjustment Plan
Barbertown Idell Rd.

Reviewed.

Committee had some concern that the house has been built before the septic was put in.

Action Items

Deborah Kratzer discussed an application that was submitted for the “Roots for Rivers” Tree Planting Grant from the Nature Conservancy. The Committee can expect to know results of grant award by the end of January 2019.

Other Matters

Commission members’ terms review.

Members’ terms expiring on 12/31/2018 are:

Deborah Kratzer

Sandra McNicol

Mara Tippet

Cynthia Niciecki, Alternate 1

The above Commission members all agreed to serve another term.

Maureen Synchronick, Governing Body member was not in attendance

Ralph Celebre requested that the Environmental Commission look at the use of herbicides in the Township in 2019. He suggested that new research on alternatives be looked at to see if there are any alternatives with possible application for our use.

Recycle News and Update

Sandra McNicol gave a report on the Hunterdon County Division of Public Health 2018 Recycling Program Meeting which she and other recycling coordinators throughout the County attended. Speakers from NJDEP Waste were there to present on the various recycle options that will become available to municipalities in the near future. NJDEP is planning to offer a service that includes sending a representative to your recycle site or town depot to discuss debris management.

March 9, 2019 will be the next County Hazardous Waste Day.

Ms. McNicol noted that a letter will be mailed to all residents reminding them of recycling criteria specifically what refuse is considered recyclable and what is not. Hopefully this will help limit the misuse of the Township recycling program. Mara Tippet suggested the Township look into hosting a one-way Facebook page used for announcements but doesn’t allow dialogue. Ms. Tippet will research and report at the January meeting.

Sustainable Kingwood

Mara Tippet suggested the Township apply for a Sustainable Jersey grant. The grant proposal is due in February.

Ms. Tippet would like to put a notice on the Township website to try to create interest for volunteers and to coordinate a Sustainable Kingwood meeting.

Horseshoe Bend Park – News and Update

Sandra McNicol would like the Environmental Commission to focus on field management at the Horseshoe Ben Park in 2019.

Open Space and Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting News and Update

Sandra McNicol reported that the Open Space Committee is trying to finish up all open applications by end of year. No new properties to report.

The Hunterdon County Agricultural Development Board plan is in draft stage and has been reviewed by Open Space and the Planning Board.

Luxfer/MEL – Update

Deborah Kratzer re-addressed the possibility of sending a letter to Luxfer requesting an update on the status of the clean-up.

In response to the letter that was mailed by the Township to members of Committees regarding email use Gail Ashley asked how the Committee should communicate with other members and the chair if only the chairperson has a township email. Secretary Walters to query Township Committee and report back at the January meeting.

PennEast Pipeline Update

The Committee reviewed the Judge's ruling on PennEast Pipeline. The ruling gave PennEast the right to take properties by eminent domain. Deborah Kratzer read a summary of the ruling written by Katrina Campbell, Township Attorney.

Landowners' attorneys are asking PennEast for more time for resident farmers to make alterations to their operations, livestock/fence relocation.

Once PennEast submits surveys to NJDEP there will be opportunity for public comment.

Ms. Kratzer reported that there will be an event called "Stand Against PennEast's Abuse of Eminent Domain" Wednesday December 19 from 11:00-12:00pm at the condemned Barley Property in Pennington NJ.

Adjournment

It was moved by Ralph Celebre and seconded by Mara Tippet to adjourn the meeting at 8:48p.m. All voted Aye on Roll Call Vote.

Respectfully submitted by,

Michele Tipton-Walters
Secretary