

Harrison Township Environmental Commission
114 Bridgeton Pike
Mullica Hill, NJ 08062
Phone: 856-478-411

Meeting Minutes – February 4, 2009

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Present: Phil Grous; Stan Hershey, Luke Oman, Sam Zappala, Doris Brady, Adrienne Roberto

These Minutes were recorded by Luke Oman who served as the Acting Secretary for this meeting.

The monthly meeting of the Harrison Township Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on February 4, 2009, at the Harrison Township Municipal Building, Phil Grous being in the chair.

The Open Public Meetings Act Announcement was read.

The commission is still in the process of interviewing for the Secretary position. No interviews were conducted during our February, 2009 meeting. The next interview is scheduled for Monday, February 9, 2009 at 7:45 p.m.

Public Attendance: Vincent Gangemi, Sr. was present but had no comments.

Minutes Approval: A motion was made by Doris Brady to approve the minutes from the January 7, 2009 meeting. The motion was seconded by Luke Oman and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Unfinished Business: A second draft of Landfill pamphlet III was discussed as well as the suitability of mailing the pamphlet to all township residents. A vote was taken about whether to put pamphlet III online only. Adrienne Roberto, Sam Zappala, Doris Brady and Luke Oman voted to put the pamphlet online only. Phil Grous was opposed to this preferring both mailed and online copies with Stan Hershey abstaining.

A new version of the township website is being constructed and Phil Grous asked the commission to think of ideas of things that should be added to the commission website (i.e. photos, graphics, articles).

Mail: The letters sent to the EC were reviewed by members in attendance. Phil Grous summarized the many pieces of mail received since the last meeting.

- ANJEC has sent a course announcement for “2009 Commissioner’s course” and Phil Grous highly recommends that commission members attend if available. The nearest location to take the course is Pilesgrove, Salem County on Monday, March 16th from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m.
- The NJ Land Conservation sent mail informing of a rally on March 6th and 7th in New Brunswick, NJ
- Stan Hershey passed along information about the Campaign to Save America’s Wolves and that they were requesting donations.
- ANJEC mailed information regarding 2009 road shows and workshops and a number of members suggested looking into a few of them.
- Sam Zappala showed an e-mail about oil and gas leases out West as related to their environmental impact.
- Gloucester County Nature Club sent information about 2009 Bird Quest which will take place Saturday May 2nd from 7 a.m. to noon and they were requesting donations for this event.

- A Memo was received from Diane Malloy, Harrison Township Acting Clerk requesting participation in a United Way Food Drive.
- Harrison Township Youth Basketball is having a Beef & Beer, February 21st.
- ANJEC sent information regarding applications for 2009 Smart Growth Planning Grant Program which provides matching grants (up to \$20,000) for ERI, Open Space, Farmland preservation, trails and Master plans.
- A confirmation was received regarding publication of future meeting dates in the Gloucester County Times, Courier Post, and Plain Dealer.
- Ginger Milazzo forwarded a letter from Kim Babusik looking for opportunities for her daughter Andie who is in 7th grade at Clearview Middle School to volunteer for some type of environmental cleanup for her and her group that could be tied to Earth Day. The commission discussed several ideas ranging from stream or pond clean up to collecting used batteries of CFL's.

Subcommittee Reports:

1. Harrison Township Day – Adrienne Roberto, Dave DiPietro and Luke Oman are members. The subcommittee has corresponded by e-mails concerning ideas and are currently investigating several priorities. Adrienne Roberto is going to contact the county about recycled giveaway items that were very popular. Dave DiPietro plans to contact Shoprite about donating more environmentally friendly shopping bags and Luke Oman is looking into seeds and other items for our table.
2. Site-plan sub committee – Doris Brady, Sam Zappala and Adrienne Roberto are members. There were no sites to review last month. One new one came in regarding South Jersey Healthcare (B 46 L 3.02, 3.03, 3.04 & 4.01) and the committee will meet to discuss this for the next commission meeting.

Public Information Projects:

- a) Raindrops article – Adrienne Roberto sent her article to Carole Rieck for publication on the township website and township newsletter.
- b) CFLs article - Luke Oman will send the latest version to Carol Rieck.
- c) Rachel Carson – Phil Grous has finished a draft on his article on Rachel Carson. He received some feedback and is revising.
- d) To Bee or Not to Bee – it was discussed about whether to update the article with any new information.
- e) A future article about the proper disposal of pharmaceuticals was discussed and all members agreed that it would be a useful research article.
- f) A future article about bats dying from a mysterious fungus was discussed.

Reports from Representatives:

Township Committee: Don Heim was not present

Planning Board: Doris Brady was newly elected to serve as representative but no meetings have taken place since.

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Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Environmental Commission is March 4, 2009.

There being no further business, Stan Hershey made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Doris Brady; all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m.