

**Harrison Township Environmental Commission**  
**114 Bridgeton Pike**  
**Mullica Hill, NJ 08062**  
**Phone: 856-478-4111**  
**March 4, 2009**  
**Minutes**

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**Approved at the Environmental Commission Meeting on April 1, 2009**

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Present: Phil Grous; Doris Brady, Luke Oman, Sam Zappala, Don Heim

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

The Open Public Meetings Act Announcement was read.

Phil Grous regrettably announced the resignation of Dave DiPietro from the commission. Currently there are three vacancies on the Commission. Phil Grous has been trying a few new approaches to obtain new members. Retiree's are a possibility because of their time availability. He approached but with zero response.

**Guest Speaker: Tony Geiger** ([tony.geiger@njudubon.org](mailto:tony.geiger@njudubon.org)) - NJ Audubon Society Center for Research and Educations

Mr. Geiger presented a power point presentation on the New Jersey Birding and Wildlife Trails Organization ([www.njwildlifetrails.org](http://www.njwildlifetrails.org)). This organization is looking for support with a Pinelands Project. This organization is always looking for site nominations and is currently in an outreach phase to engage in our local community.

We asked Mr. Geiger if possibly the Mullica Hill pond would be a candidate for a future project. Possibly adding a trail around the pond. Mr. Geiger thought they could advertise and see if people would be interested in visiting this location. Luke Oman is the representative for the pond committee.

Phil Rhudy question: Do you have any affiliation with the Seirra Club. Mr. Geiger responded, we partner with DEP.

Phil Grous read a resolution asking for endorsement for the NJ Pinelands Birding and Wildlife Trails. Phil Grous signed for the group for the endorsement.

Phil Grous thanked Mr. Geiger for his presentation.

**Public Attendance:**

Fred McKendry has issues with landfill. Mr. McKendry owns property (15 acres) on Clems Run. He might build on this land. A stream runs into the Mullica Hill pond along his property. Mr. McKendry is concerned with contamination from the landfill going into stream. How will this affect his well or hunting purposes? Very noisy six days of the week, Monday – Saturday.

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Phil Grous advised there are numerous monitoring wells with reports showing no contamination and a recently enacted township ordinance limits the noise to “dawn to dusk”. On or about March 15, 2009, a report will be available to the public concerning the landfill. Phil Grous thanked Mr. McKendry for coming.

Phil Rhudy would like to be considered for one of the EC vacancies. Phil Grous asked Phil Rhudy to submit a resume to the Township Administrator, Carole Rieck. We asked Mr. Rhudy to join us for the rest of the meeting.

**Minutes Approval:**

A motion was made by Doris Brady to approve the minutes from the February 4, 2009, meeting. The motion was seconded by Sam Zappala and the minutes were unanimously approved.

**Communications - Mail/Phone:**

A phone call from a private citizen voicing her concern on the non-degradable objects found at the landfill. The phone call was cut short and Phil Grous was not able to respond.

Fred McKendry phoned Phil Grous about the noise at this property near the landfill. Phil Grous advised him of the dusk to dawn ordinance adopted a few months ago.

A discussion on the 2009 Smart Growth Planning Grant available (up to \$20,000) through ANJEC was conducted. There is a workshop available to attend. Doris Brady will discuss with Planning Board. A possible trail around Mullica Hill pond was discussed.

**Site Plans:**

Site plan sub committee – Doris Brady, Sam Zappala and Adrienne Roberto are members. There were no site plans to review this month.

**Subcommittee Reports:**

Harrison Twp Day – Luke Oman and Adrienne Roberto are members. They could use a third person. Doris Brady volunteered to help. Luke Oman is looking into seeds and other items for the table. Dave DiPietro would still like to offer his services.

Phil Grous mentioned to have a table for a solar representative. Clearview is asking for a solar referendum in their April Budget Proposal. Don Heim will obtain further information about the solar project from one of the Clearview Board Members.

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**Public Information Projects:**

- a. Landfill public information pamphlets will be mailed as part of the Township Newsletter
- b. Raindrops article – Adrienne Roberto has submitted her article to Carole Rieck. Hopefully, the article will be in the spring newsletter.
- c. CFL's by Luke Oman was approved.
- d. Rachel Carson by Phil Grous – This has been completed and sent to Carole Rieck for next newsletter and website.
- e. Disposal of pharmaceuticals was discussed in length. Presently no program is in place for destroying old medicine. Definitely, do not dump in toilet. Sewer plants do not have the technology to remove these products. EPA suggests disposal in coffee grounds or cat litter.
- f. To Bee or not to Bee – Discussion on obtaining a Bee Keeper for Harrison Township Day. Do we need approval? Phil Grous to investigate.

**Other Unfinished Business:**

Activities – Sam Zappala presented possible community projects for High or Middle School Students. Cleanup around the stream or highway cleanup to name a few. Doris Brady suggested that someone contact Clearview representatives of various clubs; Environmental Club, National Honor Society, Boys or Girls Scouts. The Township Committee could give recognition for their efforts. Liability issues are a concern. The idea to contact school representatives for clubs or organization already having liability insurance.

Phil Grous to contact Middle and High School representative to discuss further.

**Reports from Committee Representative:**

- a. Township Committee – No report at this time
- b. Planning Board – Doris Brady advised the RJP and Clem Run estates on are hold. The South Jersey Healthcare center was approved. Richwood town center – approval for general development plan. Received grant for Traffic light at Old Mill Road and Main Street. Eighteen street lights will be installed on Main Street.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Environmental Commission is April 1, 2009.

There being no further business, Doris Brady made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Luke Oman; all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 pm.