

Harrison Township Environmental Commission
114 Bridgeton Pike
Mullica Hill, NJ 08062
Phone: 856-478-4111
December 2, 2009
Minutes

Approved at the Environmental Commission Meeting on January 6, 2010

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The monthly meeting of the Harrison Township Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on December 2, 2009, at the Harrison Township Municipal Building, Phil Grous being in the chair.

The Open Public Meetings Act Statement was read.

Pledge of Allegiance: (Remember the men and women protecting us in the armed forces)

Present: Phil Grous, Doris Brady, Sam Zappala, Luke Oman (arrived 7:50pm) Stan Hershey, Vicky Gaunt, Don Heim

Absent: Kevin Riefenstahl, Phil Rhudy

Guest Speaker:

None

Public Attendance:

None

Minutes Approval:

The minutes for November 2009 are being tabled until January 2010.

Communications - Mail/Phone: The letters sent to the Environmental Commission were reviewed by members in attendance. Phil Grous summarized the mail received since the last meeting.

Mail received:

1. Received certificates for the attendance of the ANJEC Road Show – Municipal Sustainability and Commission Marketing. Members who attended the seminar were presented with their certificates.
2. ANJEC – Invoice for membership dues and list of Workshops and Road Shows for 2010.
3. EDA/Joseph Hoffman, Jr. – Block 47 Lot 5.04 – Form letter requesting determination of official boundary of wetlands and DEP approval activity in wetlands.
4. Kernan/Camden Diocese – Block 38, Lot 6 – Form letter requesting determination of official boundary of wetlands and DEP approval activity in wetlands.

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5. ANJEC – Workshop “Mapping Natural Resources of the South Jersey Bayshore” Computer Training (GIS) at Rowan University, Friday, December 4, 2009 12:30-4:00pm. – has been cancelled.
6. ANJEC – Invoice for Road Show on November 18, 2009 – “Municipal Actions to Foster Sustainability” and “Gorilla Marketing” for Environmental Commission.
7. From Jeff Summerton – Article from Esquire Magazine on global warming.

Email Received:

8. From Phil Rhudy/Chris Knisely. Notice of training session by NJ on use of GIS (Geographic Information System) at Stockton College on Friday, December 11, 2009 – 1-4pm.
9. From Carole Rieck requesting information for Community Calendar – due December 7, 2009.

A motion was made by Doris Brady to open a discussion on the community calendar dates. The motion was seconded by Stan Hershey.

Doris Brady doesn't feel we need to attend summer meetings. Don Heim proposed a bi-monthly schedule (six meetings per year). A number of people responded that it would not be feasible for a bi-monthly schedule due to the need to review site plans in a timely manner, vacation schedules, etc. The members did not feel there would be a quorum for the July and August meetings. We will continue with the schedule of monthly meetings from September through June and will discuss further to have projects to work on over the summer. The “normal schedule” (excludes July and August unless a special meeting is required and would need to be advertised).

A motion was made by Doris Brady to approve the 10 month schedule. A motion was seconded by Stan Hershey and was unanimously approved.

10. From Pennoni/SLRD – Block 57, Lot 7 on November 17, 2009. Will be requesting Flood Hazard Area Permit with a Hardship Waiver and Wetlands General Permit for construction of a stormwater outfall structure on Howard Pennell's property.
11. Tesoro Estate (Damminger Farm)/ARH – Blocks 29.11 and 29.12, Lots 1, 5 and 1 to 6 – Biennial Certification Monitoring Report.

Other:

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- 12. Harrison Township Website – Article on Raccoon Creek Bridge/Mullica Hill Pond Dam.
- 13. ANJEC – Packet of information from Sustainability Road Show
- 14. Mail delivered to Brian Horne (by mistake) from NJDEP July 14, 2009. Legal notice of “no further action conditions” and “Covenant not to sue.” Requesting the Environmental Commission to sign. Will forward to Kevin Riefenstahl for review.

Site Plans:

Permanent Site Plan sub-committee, Doris Brady, Sam Zappala, Phil Grous (Stan Hershey (alternate) – nothing to report.

Public Information Projects:

- 1. Environmental Commission shirts – Phil Grous placed the order.
- 2. Landfill ad-hoc committee - Don Heim – Interviewing and hope to have a five person committee by the end of January 2010.
- 3. ANJEC Workshop – Thank you Luke Oman for the November 18th workshop presentation of the “Municipal Actions to Foster Sustainability” and “Gorilla Marketing”.
- 4. CFL and eWaste disposal program – Phil Rhudy to arrange for Mike Micklasavage to speak at our January 2010 meeting.
- 5. Recycle Bank – Stan Hershey – Will continue to pursue various options.
- 6. Tree Planting project – Sam Zappala looking to obtain grants to be able to purchase trees. Mr. Zappala will also contact the Audubon society and Pineland preservation organizations to obtain additional possibilities on purchasing trees. Stan Hershey mentioned to look at the following website: www.njpin.com.
- 7. Mullica Hill Pond ad-hoc committee – Don Heim, Phil Grous, and Luke Oman – The next meeting is schedule for December 16, 2009. Don Heim received a phone call for an interested person to represent the ad-hoc committee as chairperson.
- 8. “To Bee or not to Bee” – Vicky Gaunt – Commission suggested too add a website link to the article. A motion was made to approve the article (with noted corrections) by Doris Brady and seconded by Stan Hershey and the Commission unanimously approved the article for submission to the Township.
- 9. Disposal of Pharmaceuticals – Phil Grous – Few changes required and will revise and resubmit for approval at the January 2010 meeting.
- 10. Bats – Kevin Riefenstahl – Will discuss at the January 2010 meeting.
- 11. Harrison Township Day – May 2010 – Vicky Gaunt – Need 2 additional people to volunteer.

Other Unfinished Business:

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Any written communications intended for eventual release to the public must be labeled with the word "DRAFT" and as such may not be released until the Environmental Commission approves the communication for release.

New Business:

Continuing membership on Harrison Township Environmental Commission:

Nomination was made by Doris Brady to appoint Stan Hershey to the Environmental Commission for another three year term. Luke Oman seconded the nomination and was unanimously approved by all in attendance.

Vicky Gaunt as alternate – Phil Grous expressed his views on why he is not voting to reappoint Vicky Gaunt as alternate. A vote was taken and Luke Oman and Sam Zappala voted yes; Phil Grous, Stan Hershey, and Doris Brady opposed. The Commission is not recommending Vicky Gaunt as alternate.

Don Heim, the Township Committee liaison to the Environmental Commission, asked Vicky Gaunt if she is still interested in serving on the Commission. Vicky Gaunt expressed she would like to continue as alternate member.

Post meeting note: Mr. Gaunt stated in subsequent communication that she wants to resign from the Environmental Commission.

Selection of Chairman and Vice Chairman for 2010:

Doris Brady nominated Phil Grous as Chairman. Stan Hershey seconded the nomination and a vote was taken with a unanimous response from all in attendance.

Nominations for Vice Chairman – Doris Brady nominated Luke Oman but he declined. Luke Oman nominated Stan Hershey but he also declined. Stan Hershey nominated Sam Zappala and he also declined. A request was made to table the nomination for vice chairman until the January meeting.

Next Meeting: The next scheduled meeting of the Environmental Commission is January 6, 2010.

Adjournment: 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 10:10 pm.