

KINGWOOD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Regular Meeting Minutes May 26, 2009

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Deborah Kratzer at 8:10 P.M.

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 February 5, 2009 and by telefaxing a copy of the notice to the Express Times and the Star Ledger on January 28, 2009. A copy of the notice was also posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building on January 28, 2009.

In order to ensure full public participation in this meeting, all members of this committee or Board, 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

<u>Present:</u>	Deborah Kratzer	<u>Absent:</u>	Walt Warneski
	Lois Voroinin		Nicole Voigt
	Gail Ashley (8:15 arrived)		
	Cynthia Niciecki		
	Sandra McNicol		
	Mayor Elaine Niemann		
	Joseph Zgurzynski		

MINUTES

Motion and adoption of minutes of April 28, 2009 Regular Meeting Minutes for the Environmental Commission

It was moved by Lois Voronin, seconded by Cynthia Niciecki and carried the motion to approve and adopt the minutes of April 28, 2009 Regular Meeting Minutes for the Environmental Commission.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye -	Deborah Kratzer Lois Voroinin Cynthia Niciecki Sandra McNicol Mayor Elaine Niemann Joseph Zgurzynski	Nay - None
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Absent -	Walt Warneski Nicole Voigt Gail Ashley	Abstain - None
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Correspondence

Letter from Biggs Engineering Associates, P.A. re: TWA Application, Block 24, Lot 1.01 Uncle Scott's Realty, LLC – Treatment Works Approval Permit Appl.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed the letter from Biggs Engineering Assoc. She explained that the letter describes that there is no increase in capacity, but just a replacement of a malfunctioning septic system. This is an application requesting a Treatment Works Approval from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. If anyone has comments they should write to the NJDEP Division of Water Quality.

Reports

QC Laboratories – Analytical Report – 12 Fairview Road(Old School House)

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed, and noted that this report is acceptable.

QC Laboratories – Analytical Report – 200 Union Road, Kingwood Twp. Park

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed, and noted that this report is acceptable.

Notice from the N.J.D.E.P. – Bureau of Industrial Site Remediation

Re: Magnesium Elektron, Inc. – Approval

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer read letter aloud. Environmental Commission member Joe Zgurzynski explained the content of the letter. He stated that the State approved the old plan, but feels that they need a new plan to address the chloride/sodium/sulfate/total dissolved solids plume in the ground water, resulting from discharges from MEI's operations. He stated that if the Environmental Commission would like to know more, they could call Andrew Dillman, Case Manager.

3.

There was a lengthy discussion on the ground water and the flow pattern, rock fracture, and water levels. The Commission discussed that it would be a good idea to get a copy of the Remedial Investigation Workplan to review. Gail Ashley offered to call and get a copy of the plan, and send a copy to all the Environmental Commission members.

Notice from the D.J.D.E.P. – Suspected Hazardous Substance Discharge Notification
NJDEP Case Number: 09-05-05-1035-02 – 135 Byram Kingwood Road

Chairwoman Kratzer reviewed. She explained that this is a spill of fuel oil in a basement of an abandoned home.

Hunterdon County Soil Conservation District

N/A

Recycling Update/Coordinator Cynthia Niciecki

Volunteer needed for Saturday, June 13, 2009

Cynthia Niciecki started out by thanking Gail Ashley for helping out at the last recycling on Saturday morning. She noted she sent in the Township's tonnage report for 2008 to the State. The total tons reported were 1,368.72 tons. Comparing the total amounts to the previous year 2007 with 729.90 tons, showing an increase of 638.82 tons. Cynthia noted that a volunteer is needed for Recycling on June 13, 2009. Sandra McNicol volunteered to call the girl scouts to volunteer. If the girl scouts are not available, Sandra volunteered to come and work that day. Chairwoman Kratzer thanked Cynthia Niciecki for all her hard work in getting the tonnage report together. Debbie Kratzer noted that the County cleanup dates for hazardous wastes are July 11, 2009 and November 14, 2009. Also for the electronics cleanup the date is scheduled for September 26, 2009.

Old Business

Objectives for 2009

Chairwoman Kratzer noted that before the next Environmental Commission meeting she would like the Commission to plan out what they are going to do for Community Day. Mayor Niemann suggested that it may be a good idea to send out a survey in reference to radon testing. Sandra McNicol feels they should do something to educate the residents on septic pumping, to maintain their systems and tanks. The Commission suggested a poster form to catch the eye of the people. They all agreed to have the water testing signups, and the septic cleaning again this year. Sandra McNicol stated that they maybe able to get good idea's from ANJEC on how to go about educating the public on streams along properties. Lois Voronin will get quotes for the septic cleaning for the fall.

4.

Sustainable Jersey Program - Form a "Green Team" 6-7 members

Mayor Niemann noted that she met with the Green Team. Two members of the Team, David Posey and Diana Haywood have both joined and agreed to work with Mayor Nieman as core people. She stated that she has recruited a gentleman by the name of Eric Scher. Also all the members of the Green Team are charged with getting two people to assist with different components to the program. She explained that the grant application made it to the State in time, and that we should hear in early June if the Township was awarded the grant. Mayor Niemann explained that it is a \$10,000 grant to install rain gardens on municipal properties to mitigate the storm water flow.

New Business

Hunterdon County EC Roundtable – List of local Farmers

Mayor Niemann noted that she attended the Roundtable and noted that it was very interesting. She explained all the topics that she learned. Some of the topics that they covered were warmed seasoned grasses, farming, and the benefits of storm water management.

Cultivation of Land Before Development

Chairwoman Kratzer asked to have this on the agenda for next month.

Lockatong & Wickecheoke Management Plan Meeting 5/27/2009 at 5:30 PM at Kingwood Township Municipal Building

Chairwoman Kratzer reviewed. She noted that there will be updated documents of the plan on the website.

Deer Overpopulation

Certified Hunter Program (draft document by John Mathieu)

Chairwoman Kratzer reviewed and explained the program. Cynthia Niciecki noted that her husband has experience in hunting, and also law enforcement. She stated that he would like to be the coordinator of the Hunter Program. Mayor Niemann suggested that the Environmental Commission make a recommendation to the Township Committee that they consider a plan that would control the deer population. She also explained that a newsletter will be sent out to notify the residents on the deer situation, and thought it may be a good idea to send it out with the Community Day letter. There was also a suggestion to invite local gun club members to an Environmental Commission meeting to speak with the Commission to possibly promote the idea of hunting on local properties.

5.

The Commission discussed the idea of Jack Niciecki being a coordinator for the program. Cynthia Niciecki noted that Jack will be gathering information on Hunting, and also speak with the County about their program.

It was moved by Lois Voronin, seconded by Cynthia Niciecki and carried the motion to approve Jack Niciecki to gather information on deer hunting for a program for the Township, and to come speak with the Environmental Commission with suggestions and information he has obtained.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye -	Deborah Kratzer Lois Voroinin Cynthia Niciecki Sandra McNicol Mayor Elaine Niemann Joseph Zgurzynski Gail Ashley	Nay - None
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Absent -	Walt Warneski Nicole Voigt	Abstain - None
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Coping with Deer with Master Gardening Beth Nardone, June 10, 2009
7:00PM at Hunterdon County Library

Chairwoman Kratzer noted if anyone is interested in the subject they should attend the meeting on June 10th. Lois Voronin offered to make the reservations for anyone that would be interested in attending.

Action Items:

ANJEC 2007 Smart Growth Planning Grant (ERI & Conservation Element)

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer explained that she is waiting for information from CFO Diane Laudenschick.

ANJEC 2009 Smart Growth Planning Grant (Open Space & Recreation Plan)

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that she has not heard anything at this time about the grant.

6.

Environmental Commission Site Plan Review

Cacciabaudo Block 37, Lot 3.05 etc

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer and Sandra McNicol reviewed a Site Plan Review they worked on together. This is a residential Class I, II, III, Major; commercial subdivision. Consolidation of Block 37, Lots 3.05, 3.06, 3.07, 3.08 (five lots) into lots 3.05, 3.06, and 3.07 (three lots). The Commission reviewed the site plan maps and discussed the wetland areas, the streams and soils.

Perrotti Block 23, Lot 11 & 11.01

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that she and Sandra McNicol worked on a Site Plan Review for the Perrotti property located off Route 519, and also gave this to the Planning Board. It was noted that this property is in a very large wetlands area. This is a major subdivision with 13 new lots, each lot to be 3 to 4 acres. The Commission members reviewed the Site Plan Review and site plan map.

Wastewater Management Plan for the Township

Mayor Elaine Niemann noted that Diana Haywood a member of the Wastewater Management Committee for the Township, attended a meeting recently for the Wastewater Management Plan for the County. Mayor Niemann stated that she will give an update on the meeting at the June Environmental Commission meeting.

Annual Report/Newsletter

Mayor Niemann noted that she would like to get the Kingwood Newsletter sent out with the Community Day letter in August.

MEL – Update

The Commission will discuss an update at the June meeting.

Open Space

Sandra McNicol reports on Meetings of May 7, 2009 Open Space Advisory Committee

Sandra McNicol noted that the hike that took place on May 2nd was very successful. She stated that everyone that attended enjoyed it very much. She explained that Richard Dodds who is an Open Space Committee member, mapped out and planned a trail for the hike. The hike was located on Fairview Road, on the preserved Flagg Property. Everyone parked at the Old Fairview School and was shuttled down to the hike site.

7.

Sandra noted that everyone that attended on May 2nd, was very interested in scheduling another hike in the fall. She noted that the next hike is scheduled for Saturday, October 3, 2009. The hike will be a trail to the high falls to the Lockatong Creek. She discussed the update on Equestrian Village. She explained that the Freeholders voted to contribute 1.5 million dollars. There will also be a contribution of green acres funds. Sandra explained that Liz Schmid has been working very hard on preserving the Felix property. She noted that the Open Space Committee is working on designing signs for preserved properties. She also stated that the Township will be providing preserved signs for the Melnick Farm, and the Ukarish Farm. They will state when the property was preserved and the name of the owner at the time of preservation.

Mayor Niemann reviewed an update of the Gergar Farm. She explained that it is very close to being the Township's property, possibly before July. She explained that the Leon's will have life rights to farming the property. The Township plans to auction off the property to replenish open space funds.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that she was on the ANJEC wet site, and found that there will be several Webinars if anyone is interested. The Webinars are scheduled for Tuesday, June 2nd, 2009 How to be an effective Environmental Commission, Tuesday, June 9th, 2009 Environmental Resource Inventories, and Tuesday, June 16th, 2009 Environmental Considerations in Site Plan Reviews.

Public Comment – Privilege of the Floor

N/A

It was moved by Gail Ashley, seconded by Sandra McNicol and carried the motion to adjourn the Environmental Commission meeting at 10:10PM. **All** voted **Aye** on **Roll Call Vote**.

Respectfully submitted,

**Cynthia L. Keller, RMC
Secretary, Environmental Comm.**