

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REGULAR
MEETING MINUTES
August 27, 2013
7:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:37P.M. Chairwoman Debbie 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 January 31, 2013, and by telefaxing a copy of the notice to the Express Times and the Star Ledger on January 23, 2013. A copy of the notice was also posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building in January 23, 2013.

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

<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Debbie Kratzer	Lois Voronin
Sandra McNicol	Gail Ashley
David Posey	Timothy Cahalin
Cynthia Niciecki	Willard Reasoner
Diana Haywood	Joe Zgurzynski

Public Comment – Privilege of the Floor

N/A

Minutes

(1). Approval of July 23, 2013 Environmental Commission Regular Minutes

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by David Posey and carried to approve the July 23, 2013 regular meeting minutes of the Environmental Commission.

2.

Comments: No comments

Roll Call Vote:	Aye	- Kratzer, McNicol, Posey,
	Nay	- None
	Abstain	- Niciecki
	Absent	- Voronin, Ashley, Cahalin

Correspondence

(2). Apply for 2013 Environmental Achievement Award

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer explained that this is from ANJEC, which is an opportunity for the Commission to apply for the 2013 Environmental Achievement Award.

Notice of upcoming meetings:

Frenchtown Green Fair 9/28/2013

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer explained that there will be a Frenchtown Green Fair on September 28th. She stated that an organic gardener named Michael MacGraff will be there as a speaker.

She noted the following dates for meetings with ANJEC:

Workshops - September 10th, 2013 Making Green Stormwater Management a Reality
September 30th, 2013 Right Tree, Right Place
October 19th, 2013 40th Annual Environmental Congress (*Planning in a Changing Environment*)

Recycling News and Update

Volunteer for Recycling Saturday, September 14, 2013

Sandra McNicol noted that the township received money for the metal dumpster items. She noted that there has not been that much metal being recycled recently. She explained that recycling is going very well and filling approximately seven dumpsters. She noted that she is working on the reports and she should have the tonnage report completed this week. Diane Haywood asked how the electronics is going. Sandra McNicol explained that there has been people dropping items off for the electronic bin. She explained that she would like to try and work on a display to encourage people not to litter for Community Day. She stated that she will have pictures, and other displays to put out regarding ideas to stop littering. There was a discussion regarding litter and how to display it to encourage people to stop.

Reports

(3). Freshwater Wetlands Appl. General Permit Authorization Bl. 28, Lt. 14.06

3.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer explained that she looked over this application. She noted that it is good to see what is going on in the township.

(4). Letter from the N.J.D.E.P to Applicant – Block 9, Lots 25, and 10

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer stated that she reviewed the application and noted that this was discussed a couple of months ago. She explained that it is a wooded lot and that there is a small area of wetlands with a swale.

(5). Suspected Hazardous Discharge – Block 35, Lot 9

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed the notice for Block 35, Lot 9. David Posey explained how the reports are logged in and how the NJDEP is notified. He also explained that every reported incident it is on record.

(6). Block 25, Lot 7 & 7.15 Freshwater Wetlands LOI- Verification

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer explained that this is a reapplication. She provided a map last month for everyone to review. She noted that if they wanted to look further, they would have to go to the records from five years ago.

(7). Wetland Map Block 25, Lot 7

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer briefly reviewed the property over the overhead projector.

Hunterdon County Soil Conservation District

N/A

Old Business

Delaware River Tubing

Chairwoman Debbie Krater noted that the Board of Adjustment meeting was canceled this month due to the Delaware River Tubing not paying their escrow fees. She noted that the owners of the business wanted to meet with the EC Commission to talk about the environmental issues on his property. She noted that she contacted the township attorney and that it was decided that if he wanted to meet with the EC Commission that he is welcome to come to a monthly meeting.

(8). Wetland Map Block 39, Lot 9.02

The Commission Members reviewed a map of the property on the overhead projector. It was discussed what areas have wetlands.

4.

Filter Strip Planting at Kingwood Park

No new updates at this time.

Action Items:

Sustainable Jersey – Update

No new updates at this time.

MEL – Update

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer explained that Gail Ashley has been in touch with the people at MEL. William Kraft from Environ contacted her and suggested that several people from the township meet with him at the MEL site. This meeting would be with representatives from MEL and Environ to have a round table discussion. Chairman Debbie Kratzer noted that Gail Ashley stated in her message that the EC Commission should provide him with a list of questions and a list of people who will be attending the meeting. She noted that he offered to set up the meeting. It was noted that Gail Ashley asked William Kraft for a copy of the latest report on MEL by Environ. There was a discussion on who would be attending MEL to meet with the representatives.

Horseshoe Bend Park – Update

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that there is something very interesting that has been happening the last few weeks where someone who is involved with the North America Butterfly Association saw a butterfly called the “Gray Comma” at the Horseshoe Bend Park. Debbie Kratzer noted that her son is very interested in butterflies and that they have seen the “Gray Comma” butterfly on their property. She explained that she went with her son and the representatives were eager to share their knowledge with them. She stated that they identified literally dozens of species of butterflies at the Horseshoe Bend Park. She noted that it would be very beneficial not to mow certain fields for the native species in their habitat. Sandra McNicol would like to write a letter to the Township Committee letting them know what they found out regarding the butterflies and also make a request by suggesting that those areas not be mowed. Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that hopefully the Commission will learn some ideas for the future.

Cynthia Niciecki noted that tables, chairs and a PA system have been purchased for the Morton Building facility at the Park for the organizations that rent the park. She explained that they put in a new trail with wooden planks. She also stated that trail markers were put up every 10th of a mile along the trail, and other markers were put up for the first responders to have an idea of where to find someone in case of an emergency situation. She noted that there will be a horseback riding event the end of September on the 27th, 28th and 29th.

5.

She explained that a woman by the name of Meg Sleeper, who is a resident of Kingwood Township has organized a program for endurance horseback riding. She noted that hunting season is starting soon in September and that Committeeman Richard Dodds will be meeting with first responders to familiarize everyone with the park in case of emergency.

New Business

Community Day – September 21st

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer discussed what will be set up for the Environmental table on Community Day. She noted that they need volunteers to give out information and that anyone interested in volunteering can sign up.

Well Water Discount Testing and Discount Septic Program

Chairwoman Debbie Krater stated that we will be looking into a discount well testing program for Community Day. There was also a discussion regarding the discount septic program which is scheduled and also will be on the website. She noted that there will be a signup sheet at Community Day for residents that are interested.

Site Plan Review

Open Space

Sandy McNicol – Update on Open Space and Ag – No meeting in August

Sandra McNicol noted that there was no meeting in August. She explained that in October or November there may be a closing on the property, which is known as the “Farm” along Horseshoe Bend Road.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that she spoke to Richard Dodds regarding whether the Environmental Commission would be interested in managing the Kugler Woods. She stated that the township has a memorandum of agreement with the State and that Kingwood Township is responsible for taking care of the property. She explained that Richard Dodds noted that there is not a lot to be maintained on that property. It was noted that the State owns the property and that it is open to the public to use and also to hunt. Sandra McNicol mentioned that the Land Trust stated that the hunters that hunt those properties usually volunteer to maintain those properties. It was suggested to invite Richard Dodds to next month’s meeting to talk about what he suggests for the Kugler Woods property.

Adjournment

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by Cynthia Niciecki and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:45P.M. All voted Aye on Roll Call Vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia L. Keller
Secretary

