

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
April 22, 2014
7:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:46P.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 February 6, 2014, and by telefaxing a copy of the notice to the Express Times and the Star Ledger on January 29, 2014. A copy of the notice was also posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building on January 29, 2014.

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

Present

Debbie Kratzer
Sandra McNicol
Cynthia Niciecki
Willard Reasoner
Gail Ashley
Lois Voronin
Tim Cahalin
Diana Haywood
Joe Zgurzynski

Absent

David Posey

Public Comment – Privilege of the Floor

MEL- Update on Site Remediation Meeting with Representatives from MEL

Gail Ashley explained that the Representative for MEL is Bill Kraft from Environ International. She explained that Mr. Kraft was in touch with her regarding dates for the meeting, and it was decided to schedule a meeting with him on, Tuesday, May 6, 2014 at 7:00p.m. at the MEL office.

2.

It was decided that only three of the Environmental Commission members would attend the meeting, plus the Commission's liaison, Diana Haywood. They talked about how they would like to invite him to an Environmental Commission meeting in the future. The members would like to speak to the representative regarding the current conditions of the wells and their view on what is going on environmentally.

Gail Ashley asked all the members to e-mail their concerns and questions, which she will take to the meeting with Bill Kraft.

(5). MEL Chemicals – Quarterly Homeowner Well Sampling Results Dec 2013 – Feb 2014

Gail Ashley reviewed the quarterly homeowner well sampling results for December 2013 – February 2014.

Gail Ashley left the meeting at this time 8:00pm.

Minutes

(1). Approval of March 25, 2014 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the March 25th, 2014 will be tabled until next month. There were not enough members to approve the minutes.

Old Business

Continue Discussion Re: Route 12 Corridor and Town Centers

Willard Reasoner gave a brief review of what they are planning for the town center. He explained that they would like to keep the area scenic yet develop a town center with quaint shops and limit the development to that area. He explained that there is also a plan for a scenic overlay along State Hwy. Route 12. Sandra McNicol explained what was discussed at the planning board meetings regarding this project. Willard Reasoner stated that there was talk about sharing the existing Business Park's waste water system. He noted that this is also where the affordable housing units are being considered.

New Business

(2). Copy of letter from the NJDEP – Re: One 290 Gallon #2 Heating Oil Underground Tank System (B135, L9)

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. She noted that this has been completed and cleaned up.

Correspondence

(3). E-Mail from Patricia Leidner Hunterdon County – Online Mapping Application

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed the e-mail regarding the online mapping application.

3.

Notice of Upcoming Workshops and meetings:

(4). Rain Barrel Train the Trainer Workshop – Wednesday, April 16, 2014

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that this has already passed.

Recycling News and Update

Update from Recycling Coordinator Sandra McNicol

Sandra McNicol noted that recycling was the second Saturday on April 12th, and also the first Clean-Up Program on the same day. She stated that all went well and there was only one dumpster filled for Clean-Up Program.

She explained that only four dumpsters were switched last month for recycling. She stated that at least half of this years fees will come out of the tonnage grant.

Sandy McNicol noted that she ordered new signs through the County, which will be put up at the Recycling Depot. She explained that the signs will list what they can and cannot bring and there will also be a sign for the metal and electronic recycling bins.

She also explained that the State has approved that the Clean Communities funds can be used for the construction of an enclosed covered area for the recycling area.

Sandra McNicol noted that she is working on the tonnage grant and part of that job is to send letters to all the businesses in the area requesting their tonnage amounts.

Volunteer for Recycling Saturday, May 10, 2014

Sandra McNicol noted that no volunteer is needed at the recycling depot at this time. She feels that a volunteer will be needed in the months of August and September, when there is no Clean-Up Day Program for those months.

Reports

Hunterdon County Soil Conservation District

N/A

4.

Action Items:

Sustainable Jersey

Tim Cahalin was present and explained that there are no updates at this time.

Tree Seedling Give-A-Away – Review of April 12, 2014

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed the tree seedling give-a-away that was at the park on April 12th and noted that there were approximately 40 families that picked up trees at the Horseshoe Bend Park on that day. She noted that the purpose of the program was to plant trees that were lost during Super Storm Sandy. She explained that they planted most of the trees that were left over, all along the entrance of Horseshoe Bend Park.

Horseshoe Bend Park – Update

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer explained that the township applied for a grant to plant seeds of plants for pollinators at a field at the Horseshoe Bend Park for the butterflies. She noted that they are hoping to hear from them soon that they received the grant. Cynthia Niciecki explained that this past weekend about 30 people came to the Horseshoe Bend Park and volunteered to put up a bridge over the creek in the Horseshoe Bend Park.

Kingwood Park

Review of the Kingwood Park Stream Bank Planting — April 5, 2014

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed the park stream bank planting, which was put on by the New Jersey Water Authority. She noted that Bob O'Neil was in charge of this project. Sandra McNicol, Debbie Kratzer and her son were a few of the volunteers that helped out. They reviewed the highlights of the day. They explained that there were hundreds of willows planted that day at the Kingwood Park.

Site Plan Review

(6). **Application Minor Subdivision – Block 14, Lot 20**

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed a map of the property. She explained that this is an application for a minor subdivision. There was a discussion regarding how the property surrounds park and preserved properties. She requested that the Commission forward any suggestions or questions to the township's planning board. Sandra McNicol helped by reading the application to everyone. She noted that the property is currently a farm containing 90.584 acres and owned by the Wydner family.

5.

She noted that they have entered into an agreement with the State Agriculture Development Committee to preserve a portion of block 14, lot 20 containing 83.106 acres.

Open Space

Sandra McNicol – Update on Open Space and Agriculture Advisory Committee meeting of April 1, 2014.

Sandra McNicol was present and noted that the Wydner farm is in the process of preserving their farm, and they are scheduled to come to the planning board for their subdivision.

She explained that the township is in the process of preserving the Church property on Horseshoe Bend Road. She reviewed a map of all the properties that have been preserved in the area. She explained that the newest piece that has been preserved is along the bridge next to the Lockatong Creek near Route 651. Sandra McNicol explained that Kate Buttolph, who worked for the Hunterdon Land Trust has moved and no longer works for them. She explained that the township adopted a resolution for Kate Buttolph for all her efforts she put towards Kingwood Township.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that she received an e-mail from the New Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team informing her that they now have an app for mobile phones identifying invasive plants.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that there will be a native plant sale being put on by the Musconetcong Association on April 26th from 9:00A.M. to 2:00P.M. at the River Reserve Center, 10 Maple Ave. Asbury NJ.

Sandra McNicol noted that the Hunterdon Land Trust is looking for volunteers for a work session they will be having on a Saturday in May and in June. She noted that this will be in Alexandria Twp. She explained that if anyone is interested to please look at the Land Trust website for details.

Adjournment

It was moved by Lois Voronin, seconded by Sandra McNicol and carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:05P.M. All voted Aye on Roll Call Vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia L. Keller,
Secretary

