

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
September 23, 2014
7:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:34P.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
Lois Voronin
Sandra McNicol
David Posey
Cynthia Niciecki
Diana Haywood
Timothy Cahalin

Absent

Gail Ashley
Willard Reasoner
Joe Zgurzynski

Public Comment – Privilege of the Floor

No public comment.

Minutes

(1). Approval of the August 26, 2014 Environmental Commission Regular Minutes

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by Lois Voronin and carried to approve the August 26, 2014 Environmental Commission Reorganization and Regular Meeting Minutes.

2.

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

Old Business

N/A

New Business

N/A

Correspondence

- (2). Notice from the NJDEP Division of Water Quality – Re: Public Notice for the Proposed FFY2015 Priority System

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that this does not pertain to our township.

Notice of Upcoming Workshops and meetings:

- (3). 41st Annual Environmental Congress at Raritan Valley Comm. College, Branchburg on Friday, October 24, 2014

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that she would be interested in attending. Secretary Keller will find out if there are enough funds in the Environmental Commissions account for Debbie Kratzer to attend.

Recycling News and Update

Update from Recycling Coordinator Sandra McNicol

Sandra McNicol stated that she visited the Holland Twp. Recycling facility, and explained that they are open on the first and third Wednesday of each month and every Saturday. She will find out the exact times for the next meeting. She suggested that in the future, we may want to consider this for Kingwood Township’s recycling center. She explained that the dumpsters have been very full and there were many bags filled, which were thrown in the dumpsters.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the township’s recycling center and a few suggestions as to what to do to stop the problem of bags being thrown in the bins. Sandra McNicol noted that there are signs all around the area informing residents what to recycle, what not to recycle, and how to keep the center under control. Sandra McNicol stated that it may be necessary to limit the hours that the recycling center will be open.

3.

She explained that the new building is ready to be installed and that the township's DPW Supervisor is getting it all together and communicating with the company that will be installing the building to cover the recycling bins.

She would like to re-address the idea of limiting the hours in the future.

Reports

- (4). Notice of Suspected Hazardous Substance Discharge Notification from NJDEP – 500 Barbertown Point Breeze Road – Zirconium Oxychloride

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that this is located at MEL. She noted that she printed out the data sheet for all the chemicals and what to do if anyone comes in contact and what to do.

The Environmental Commission suggested that this information be forwarded to the Township Committee to discuss at their next meeting in October. There was a recommendation to find out if the township's EMC, Jack MacConnell has any information regarding this incident. The Commission would like to hear what the township feels about the incident.

Hunterdon County Soil Conservation District

- (5). Report of Compliance – Hunterdon County Soil Conservation District – Re: Block 24, Lots 4 & 7

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

- (6). Letter of Certification – Hunterdon County Soil Conservation District – Re: Block 14, Lot 38.03

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

Action Items:

Sustainable Jersey

Tim Cahalin noted that there is a person who will help the EC members get certified. He will reach out to him as soon as possible. He will contact Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer and Sandra McNicol to let them know what he finds out and when he is available to meet with them.

MEL- Update

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that there has been no response at this time from the two individuals who have been invited to attend the EC October meeting.

4.

Horseshoe Bend Park – Update

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that the butterfly group did another hike at the Horseshoe Bend Park.

Sandra McNicol noted that the dog park continues to be manned by volunteers, by weed wacking, cutting the grass and working on the trails. Sandra McNicol asked if anyone has heard about a virus going around with the dogs. No one seemed to hear about the virus. Sandra McNicol explained that Richard Dodds, his crew from the Friends of Horseshoe Bend park and the Conservation group that came in have worked on the trails through the Kirkland and the Flag properties, which all connect to Horseshoe Bend Park. She explained that there are new maps downstairs in the municipal building. She explained that it is a real nice walk through those properties.

The Environmental Commission reviewed the newest trail maps over the overhead projector.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer explained that there is a grant opportunity by Washington Crossing Audubon Society, which is for small grants, conservation projects. She noted that Sandra McNicol suggested that the Environmental Commission recycle the grant request that was sent to ANJEC for re-doing a field regarding invasive species and getting rid of them. Debbie Kratzer and Sandra McNicol will work together on the application for the grant.

Kingwood Park

Review Community Day

Diana Haywood reviewed Community Day. She noted that it was nice, but that it was a slow day. She explained that a few people signed up for the well testing.

Review Water Sampling and Septic Pumping Discount Program

The Environmental Commission discussed the programs and how they did this year regarding the amount of residents that participated. Secretary Keller stated as of today, 10 families participated in the well program, and 26 families signed up for the discount septic cleaning.

Projected Pipeline to be Proposed in Hunterdon County and in Kingwood Twp.

Diana Haywood explained that the Township Committee is working on scheduling a special meeting for a public hearing, and they will be inviting several organizations to attend the meeting. She noted that a meeting will be scheduled for the end of this month and they are hoping that PennEast also comes. This way everyone can hear both sides of the issue.

5.

Sandra McNicol noted that if anyone is interested in finding out more information at this time, they can go to the Delaware River Keeper. Diana Haywood reviewed the transcript from the meeting Delaware Township conducted in early September.

The Environment Commission reviewed the map of the proposed pipeline, which will be available on the township's website.

Site Plan Review

N/A

Open Space

Sandra McNicol – Updates from the September 2, 2014 meeting for Open Space and Agriculture Advisory Committees

Sandra McNicol reviewed the meeting of September 2, 2014. She noted that another farm was preserved, which is the Maritan property. She noted that it is less than 100 acres, but more than 50.

Sandra McNicol noted that on September 29th, at the Hunterdon County Complex there will be a meeting. She noted that two members of the Agriculture Advisory Committee will be attending the meeting.

Tim Cahalin noted that if anyone receives any additional information on the pipeline to bring it back to the commission.

Cynthia Niciecki shared two pictures of bears that she saw on her property.

Adjournment

It was moved by David Posey, seconded by Cynthia Niciecki and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:50pm. **All** voted **Aye** on **Roll Call Vote**.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia L. Keller
Secretary