

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
June 23, 2015
7:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:42P.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 29th, 2015, and by telefaxing a copy of the notice to the Express Times on January 21, 2015. A copy of the notice was also posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building on January 21, 2015.

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	Gail Ashley
Lois Voronin	David Posey
Sandra McNicol	Cynthia Niciecki
Willard Reasoner	Joe Zgurzynski
Diana Haywood	
Timothy Cahalin	

Public Comment – Privilege of the Floor

N/A

Minutes

(1). Approval of May 26, 2015 Environmental Commission Reorganization and Regular Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Lois Voronin, seconded by Timothy Cahalin and carried to approve the May 26, 2015 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes with the following corrections.

2.

First page – Under Minutes (1). The title reads: Approval of April 28th, Environmental Commission (**Reorganization and Regular Meeting Minutes**) - **Remove the words (Reorganization and).**

Third page – Under number (6). Second sentence – reads: Diana Haywood noted that the Department of Public Works went out to help. Replace sentence with: **(Diana Haywood noted that the Department of Public Works discovered the problem of the diesel fuel spill along the roadside and then notified the authorities).**

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

Correspondence

(1a). NJDEP – News Release – FYI

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer explained that the NJDEP made some changes. She explained the news release, which is to propose revisions to its Flood Hazard Area Control Act rules that will reduce complexity, correct conflicting regulations, and streamline the permitting process for project applicants while continuing New Jersey’s high standards for flood mitigation and ecological protection of river and stream corridors. The Commission reviewed the other elements of the proposed rule. Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that if anyone had any comments that the Commission can talk about this at their next meeting.

Notice of upcoming meetings/workshops:

Recycling News and Update

Update from Recycling Coordinator Sandra McNicol

Sandra McNicol was present and reviewed a clean-up that was done on Saturday, June 20th by the local Cheerleading Squad on Horseshoe Bend Road. She noted that since the end of April there have been four clean-ups and she reviewed them all. Diana Haywood expressed how it’s wonderful that the township has the grant funds to do these kind of projects. Sandra McNicol noted that she is allowed to give each non-profit organization (two) \$250.00 each for their clean-up projects. She explained she requires that there is a minimum of three adults who help the children out at each clean-up.

She noted that the township received a grant in the amount of \$18,354.26 to use for Clean Communities projects and the program.

3.

Sandra McNicol noted that she would like to schedule a tire drive someday. She stated that the regular recycling has been running well. She noted that the DPW did one final clean-up around the property and that it has been good ever since. She explained that ANJEC has a video in one of their monthly reports regarding the Township of Vernon, who asked the High School to put a video together on recycling. She would like the local High School here to do something like that in our area.

Sandra McNicol stated that she would like to have a program at the Kingwood Township School for the children. She mentioned that the County receives Clean Communities Grant also. She noted that a magic show was done for the children, which was about clean communities and recycling, which was put on by the County.

Debbie Kratzer suggested in the future maybe the funds could go towards a project where the children can do a project such as paint a picture or something to do with clean communities.

Reports

(2). Freshwater Wetlands Application Notice to Neighboring Landowners from Maser Consulting – Sustainable Aquaculture Systems, Inc. Block 49, Proposed Lot 21.01, Franklin Township, Block 15.01, Lot 1

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

(3). Letter of Interpretation – Delaware River Tubing Inc. Block 6, Lot 21

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

Hunterdon County Soil Conservation District

(4). HCSCD – B1 14, Lot 38.03 Final Report of Compliance

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

New Business

(5). Annual Report for 2014

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that she drafted the Annual Report for 2014. The Commission went over the report and stated that Debbie Kratzer did a nice job.

There was a lengthy discussion on the Penn East Pipeline and the fracking. The Commission is very concerned about this being proposed in the township.

4.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that she will try to find an ordinance, which is a sample to take to the Board of Health.

It was moved by Willard Reasoner, seconded by Sandra McNicol and carried to approve the Annual Report for 2014 and to send a copy to the Township Committee Members and to ANJEC.

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

Old Business

N/A

Action Items:

Sustainable Jersey – Kingwood Green Team Update

(5a). SJ – Hart Workshop – 2014 Sustainable Jersey Cert. Cycle Timeline

Diana Haywood gave a brief update on the meeting with the Kingwood Sustainable Green Team, which was before the Environmental Commission Meeting this evening. Willard Reasoner explained that this evening they talked about what they have accomplished and what they need to work on. He explained that they missed the deadline to apply this year, but they can start new and work from here on. He noted that he will be doing a Natural Resource Inventory of all the buildings that were involved with the energy project.

MEL – Update

Sandra McNicol noted that there was a leak found on one of the wells that was put in to be monitored for MEI several years ago. She feels that the wells should still be tested to see what the salt plume content would be in the water. She feels that all the test wells that were put in should be tested and monitored.

On Going Well Water Resource Inventory

No update at this time.

PennEast Pipeline: Update

(6). Comments from Lois Voronin – Re: Penn East Pipeline Resource Report

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that all comments need to be submitted before the Penn East Pipelines Environmental Impact Statement will be completed, which should be in July sometime.

5.

She encouraged everyone to get their comments as soon as possible. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the pipeline and how it will affect the values of the properties and homes where it will be constructed to go through. It was decided that everyone send their comments to Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer, who will then prepare all the comments to go to FERC.

It was moved by Lois Voronin, seconded by Timothy Cahalin and carried to approve to send comments from the Environmental Commission to FERC regarding their Resource Reports.

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

Horseshoe Bend Park – Update

Pollinator Meadow Project – Update

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed a seedling identification sheet she prepared and sent to everyone today. She noted that she was up at the field at Horseshoe Bend Park and that the plants are starting to grow.

Kingwood Park - Update

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted they planted the willow sticks several months ago and that she has not heard about anything else going on at this time.

Community Day

The Commission has agreed to do a table for Environmental information for Community Day 2015 this year.

Well Testing for the fall of 2015

There was a brief discussion regarding whether the Commission would like to have the well testing. They discussed the possibility of the Penn East Pipe line coming through and what each homeowner's contract should state about mandatory well testing before and after it is installed.

Septic Cleaning for the fall of 2015

The Environmental Commission all agreed to have the discount septic cleaning program again this year. Secretary Keller to get quotes for the programs.

Site Plan Review

The Commission reviewed an updated site plan for the Delaware River Tubing Company, which is an application for a variance and approval to the Board of Adjustment.

6.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that this is to run the tubing business from Route 12 on the property of Arties Bar and Grill. It was noted that the next Board of Adjustment meeting will be on July 8th, at 7:30PM at the municipal building.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer asked the Commission if anyone had any comments that they would like sent to the Board of Adjustment regarding the revised site plan. Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that she will write a brief letter commenting on the concerns of water use for the tubing operation. It will also include what the township's ordinance regarding threatened and endangered species survey, which requires the Environmental Impact Analysis must include a copy of a Natural Heritage Database Report, as well as, additional information if it shows the presence of any threatened or endangered species on the property. She will also remind them of the no idling rule, which is a State law that prohibits idling greater than 3 minutes. She explained that no idling signs should be posted also on the property.

Open Space

Sandy McNicol – Update on Open Space and Agriculture Advisory Committee meeting of June 2, 2015.

Sandra McNicol was present and gave a brief update of the June 2, 2015 meeting. She noted that there have been no new preservations at this time to talk about. She reviewed the open space funds and how it works.

Sandra McNicol shared a story about going to Cape May as a volunteer where they counted horseshoe crabs along the water in the Delaware Bay on two beaches.

Adjournment

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by Lois Voronin and carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:55PM. **All** voted **Aye** on **Roll Call Vote**.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia L. Keller
Secretary