

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 25, 2015
7:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:38P.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

Present

Debbie Kratzer
Lois Voronin
Gail Ashley
Sandra McNicol
David Posey
Diana Haywood

Absent

Cynthia Niciecki
Timothy Cahalin
Willard Reasoner
Joe Zgurzynski

Public Comment – Privilege of the Floor

N/A

Minutes

(1). Approval of July 28, 2015 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by Gail Ashley and carried to approve the July 28, 2015 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes.

Comments/Corrections: No comments

2.

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

Correspondence

(2). Copy of Letter to Castle Septic Re: Discount Septic Program

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

(3). Copy of Letter to Accurate Waste Systems Inc. – Award for Discount Septic Program

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. There was a discussion regarding the septic cleaning and the importance to remind people to make sure the septic tank lid is exposed and ready for cleaning. The Commission will remind the public to clear the area where their septic tank is located. It was noted that there will be an additional fee of \$70.00 per foot to clear the area if needed to be done by the septic company.

(4). Copy of letter from NJDEP to Mayor – Re: Radon Test Results

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. She noted that the township is up to Tier 1 and that the Environmental Commission should encourage the public to get their homes tested for radon. Sandra McNicol suggested that this be forwarded to the Planning Board so they can review and that this can be added to the checklist. This will also be forwarded to the Construction Official for his information and review.

(5). Copy of Letter from Raritan Headwaters Assoc. Thank you for Support of 25th Annual Stream Clean Up of the Raritan River – Saturday, April 18, 2015

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

Notice of upcoming meetings/workshops:

N/A

Recycling News and Update

Update from Recycling Coordinator Sandra McNicol

Recycling Coordinator Sandra McNicol thanked Lois Voronin for closing up the facility on Saturday, August 8th. She gave a brief review of the recycling facility and an update of what is being brought to be recycled. She noted that a lot of people are bringing items that should not be recycled. There was a lengthy discussion on how to possibly stop the problem by limiting the days the recycling center is open, and also to hire someone to sit and watch the area while the items are dropped off.

3.

Reports

(5a). Copy of Letter from Cramer Ecological Services, LLC Re: Block 33, Lot 3.03

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

The Commissioners did not receive this prior to the meeting. Therefore, they did not know exactly where the property was located. It was discussed that this is some type of construction that is going on.

(6). Q.C. Labs Analytical Report – Water Test at 599 Oak Grove Road. Kingwood Municipal

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

(7). Q.C. Labs Analytical Report – Water Test at 200 Union Road – Park Pavilion Woman’s Sink

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

(8). Q.C. Labs Analytical Report – Water Test at 200 Union Road – Park House Spigot

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

Hunterdon County Soil Conservation District

N/A

New Business

Discount Septic Cleaning Program and Discount Water Testing Program

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

(8a). Notice to Residents to Be Handed Out – Septic Cleaning Program

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

Old Business

N/A

Action Items:

Sustainable Jersey – Kingwood Green Team Update

Timothy Cahalin was not present at the meeting to give an update. Diana Haywood stated there is nothing to update at this time.

4.

MEL – Update

Update from Gail Ashley

Gail Ashley noted that she checked with the Township Clerk to see if there was any response from representatives from MEL after the township sent a letter of request for updated information on the monitoring wells near MEL. The Township Clerk stated that she had not heard from MEL, but that the Mayor was going to contact a representative for an update.

On Going Well Water Resource Inventory

Nothing new at this time.

PennEast Pipeline: - Update

Discuss Landowner Rights

Sandra McNicol explained that she attended a meeting in Delaware Township and one of the things they discussed is that the public should file intervention papers to FERC.

Sandra McNicol gave a brief review of the Pipe Line Rally in Milford NJ. She explained that everyone gathered across the Milford bridge in Pennsylvania and walked over the bridge with signs and down through Milford in town. She noted that there were approximately several hundreds of people that attended. There were a lot of speakers who got up and told their experiences. She explained that Delaware Township is very involved in stopping the pipeline and suggested if anyone is interested in getting more involved to contact those people in Delaware Township. She noted that there were many photos taken of the event. She noted that it was very informative and that there was a good turn out from Kingwood Township that about 10 people showed up at the rally.

Sandra McNicol noted that she has a lot of information for the public regarding the PennEast Pipeline that she will make copies of and put downstairs in an area specific for the pipeline.

(9). Copy of Letter to FERC – Docket PF15-1-000 Comments August 18, 2015

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. The Commissioners noted that they haven't completed reading the comments and would like a little more time to review them. Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that she would like any suggestions and comments as soon as possible. She feels that it is very important to send this to FERC as soon as everyone has read the letter. It was suggested that the Resource Report #11 be sent to members of the Kingwood Rescue Squad for their comments and suggestions.

(10). Final Copy of Letter to Kingwood Residents – Re: PennEast Pipeline

There was a brief discussion regarding the letter that is going to the residents in the summer mailing. Everyone noted that the letter sounds good and hopes the public reads this information.

5.

There was a discussion regarding what will be presented to the Township Committee and the Planning Board on September 10th at 7:30pm at the monthly Planning Board Meeting. This is in regard to reasons why the no fracking ordinance should be adopted. The Township Committee have requested that the Environmental Commission come to the Planning Board meeting to explain the ordinance to everyone. Lois Voronin and Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer plan to attend the meeting to give a presentation. Lois Voronin noted that she will prepare a presentation for the meeting.

Horseshoe Bend Park – Update
Pollinator Meadow Project - Update

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer explained that she has not been up to the park in a while. She explained that they would like to have signs made explaining the pollinator meadow and the science behind it. Sandra McNicol noted that she will look into getting the prices for the signs.

Kingwood Park - Update - Community Day – Planning
EC – Table

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed the items she plans on having at Community Day. She noted that she will be there for the day. Lois Voronin offered to be there on Community Day and Sandra McNicol stated she will also be there.

Recycling – Table

Sandra McNicol reviewed several items she will be presenting at Community Day.

Site Plan Review
N/A

Open Space
Sandy McNicol – Update on Open Space and Agriculture Advisory Committee. No meeting in August.

Sandy McNicol reviewed an update for Open Space. She noted that the Church (Farm) property is still undergoing testing and waiting for the last minute details before the closing.

Sandy McNicol noted that her husband read in the paper that the ground is actually shrinking in California from the water being taken out of the ground.

Adjournment

It was moved by Gail Ashley, seconded by Sandra McNicol and carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:20P.M. **All voted Aye on Roll Call Vote.**

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia L. Keller, Secretary

