

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 15, 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
Cynthia Niciecki
Diana Haywood**

Absent

**Willard Reasoner
Timothy Cahalin
Joe Zgurzynski**

Public Comment – Privilege of the Floor

N/A

Minutes

(1). Approval of October 27, 2015 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Gail Ashley, seconded by Sandra McNicol and carried to approve the October 27, 2015 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes.

2.

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

Correspondence

N/A

Notice of upcoming meetings/workshops:

Recycling News and Update

Update from Recycling Coordinator Sandra McNicol

(2). Updated List of Acceptable Recycling Items for Electronics

Sandra McNicol stated that she heard from NewTech Recycling Inc., and explained that there are now some new changes regarding what is not accepted and what is accepted. She noted that there is no charge to the township for them to pick up the items. There was a discussion regarding some of the other towns and that are paying for companies to pick up their electronic items. Gail Ashley suggested a sign be made stating the items that are acceptable and not acceptable and put up at the recycling center. Hopefully this will work and the public will look at the sign and bring only the items acceptable.

Sandra McNicol noted that the township has not received a tonnage grant as of this date. She noted that she contacted Allen Johnson from the County and he explained that no other towns have received a grant.

Sandra McNicol stated that it may be necessary to limit the days and times the recycling center will be open if the township does not receive the grant.

Sandra McNicol reported on Clean Communities. She noted that she has been working on spending the funds on clean-ups. She noted that the groups that do the road clean-up gets a mini grant. She stated that she is checking to make sure that most of the children participating are from Kingwood Township. She noted that the clean-ups will not be scheduled again until the springtime.

Reports

(3). Notice from NJDEP re: Block 36, Lot 13, 274 Kingwood Locktown Road

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed and stated that the cleanup was fine and that there is no further action.

(4). Notice from the NJDEP re: Sustainable Aquaculture Systems, Inc. Block 15.01, Lot 1

3.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. She stated that she wrote the Township Committee a letter suggesting they not support this amendment proposal, the reasons why and the concerns the township should be aware about.

Hunterdon County Soil Conservation District

(5). HCSCD – Block 5, Lot 8.02 - Report of Compliance

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. She noted that this is now in compliance.

New Business

(6). Copy of Resolution Adopted by the Kingwood Twp. Board of Health Res. No 2015-02

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

(7). Letter from Natural Systems Utilities Re: Sustainable Aquaculture Systems, Inc. Proposed Amendment to the Upper Delaware Water Quality Management Plan
Township Committee Recommendation - EC Review and Make Comments and Recommendations to the Township Committee to Adopt this Resolution or to Oppose

Diana Haywood noted that the Township Committee at their last meeting opposed to support this at this time until they find out more information. There was a discussion regarding the amount of water that will be used at this fish plant, which the Township Committee is very concerned about regarding the wells surrounding the plant.

(8). DG514-1 Low Flow Margin WMA Central Delaware

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

(9). Map of Block 15.01 Lot 1 – Sustainable Aquaculture

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

(10). 2016 Environmental Commission Budget Request – Motion for Amount to Be Submitted

It was moved by Lois Voronin, seconded by Gail Ashley and carried to approve the amount of \$1,200.00 for the 2016 Environmental Commission Budge Request to the Township Committee.

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

(11). Copy of Resolution from Hopewell Township re: Penn East Pipeline

4.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

(12). Sustainable Jersey Small Grants Program for Municipalities

Diana Haywood noted that the township is not ready for obtaining a grant at this time.

Schedule Date and Time for Reorganization Meeting (January 26, 2016 - fourth Tuesday of the Month

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by Cynthia Niciecki and carried to schedule a Reorganization Meeting for the Environmental Commission for the fourth Tuesday of the month on January 26, 2016 at 7:30P.M.

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

(13). ANJEC – 2016 Renewal of Membership

It was decided that this will be tabled until next month.

Old Business

Update regarding Requested Proposed Amendment to the Upper Delaware Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP)

This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

(14). Copy of Resolution Adopted by the Township Committee Re: Support of Clean Water Supplies

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

Action Items:

- Sustainable Jersey – Kingwood Green Team Update
- (15). E-mail from Nathan Charron re: Potential Opportunity for Collaboration with Neighboring Municipalities on Sustainable Jersey Actions.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

MEL – Update

Update from Gail Ashley

- (16). E-Mail/Letter to Mayor Dodds from William Kraft – Response Letter and Update MEL

5.

Gail Ashley reviewed an official letter from MEL, and explained that it stated that the township would be receiving a report within two weeks. She explained that no report has been received and it has been several weeks.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding all the test wells in the area surrounding MEL that are not tested on a periodic basis. The Environmental Commission feels that MEL should be testing and reporting on them several times a year.

Diana Haywood suggested for the next Environmental Commission meeting that we talk about looking at all the well locations and what the EC should expect from MEL. This will be listed on the January 26, 2016 EC meeting agenda.

On Going Well Water Resource Inventory

No updates at this time.

PennEast Pipeline: - Update

(17). Comments to FERC from KT Rescue Squad

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

(18). Ordinance Banning Hydraulic Fracturing – Continue Discussion

Lois Voronin noted that she will be working on the changes in the ordinance, then allow the Environmental Commission to review it first before sending it to the Township Committee to consider adopting.

(19). NJDEP – Original Filed to FERC – November 4th, 2015 Proposed PennEast Pipeline-Addendum to Comments on Final Resource Reports and FERC Cert. Appl. Hunterdon and Mercer Counties

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

(20). Letter from the NJCF – to FERC Re: PennEast Pipeline Project – November 6, 2015

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

(21). WACAP – Analyzing PennEast Purpose and Need

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

(22). Letter from the NJDEP to FERC and Penn East Pipeline Re: Addendum to Comments on Final Resource Reports and FERC Certificate Application

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

6.

New as of 12-14-2015 Penn East Pipeline Route

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed the new map of the Penn East Pipeline's new route. She explained it is unclear exactly why they chose the new route, since it increases the amount of wetlands impacted and number of stream crossings, but surmises it was to avoid the State's property and possibly Native American artifacts located on a property off of Route 519.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that everyone should work on their updated comments to FERC.

Horseshoe Bend Park – Update

Pollinator Meadow Project - Review of Seed Planting of November 8th, 2015 at HBP

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. She explained that the seeds were planted on November 8th at the Horseshoe Bend Park and approximately 15 people volunteered. She noted that everyone had a great time. She noted that it took about an hour to spread the seeds on the field.

Update of the Kingwood Township Dog Park Clean-Up on November 14th, 2015

Sandra McNicol reported on the leash free dog park clean-up at the Horseshoe Bend Park. She noted over 20 people came out to help. She stated that several bushes and weeds were taken out and cleaned up and it was a good refreshment to the park. She noted that she had a very good crew who did a lot of work.

Kingwood Park - Update -

Site Plan Review

Subdivision Application – Boundary Line Adjustment – Block 6, Lot 12 & 12.01

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer stated that she did not get a chance to look at this application. Sandra McNicol reported on what the Planning Board had decided on this property.

Open Space

Sandra McNicol – Update on Open Space and Agricultural Meeting of December 1, 2015

Sandra McNicol noted that the Open Space and Agricultural Advisory Committees met on December 1, 2015. She stated they agreed to put the Open Space funds that are banked with the County towards the preservation of Block 6, Lot 26 and 26.01.

Sandra McNicol explained that the township's CADB Liaison, Liz Schmid attended a Freeholder meeting earlier the same evening that the Open Space and Agricultural Committees met. She stated that Liz Schmid gave a brief update of what happened at the meeting. She explained that a resolution to adopt the new County Open Space Trust Fund Plan was introduced and was to be adopted.

7.

She reported that many individuals and groups expressed concerns that the plan gave the Freeholders unlimited power to do whatever they wished within the constraints imposed by the ballot question that was approved by voters. She explained that all of the speakers present wanted more specificity in the resolution. Many speakers also complained that there had been no or insufficient communication with the many partners who actively preserve land in the County. The Freeholders voted to withdraw the resolution, and said that the Planning Department would work on rewording some of the segments to make it more acceptable to the various groups. The Freeholders stated many times that they had every intention to continue the various land preservation programs that they have supported all along. The overriding problem is that the Freeholders cannot put greater restrictions on the funds than those imposed by the ballot question, whether they want to or not.

Sandra McNicol explained that Mayor Dodds reported that the township received word recently that there is a closing scheduled for the Church Property on December 16th, 2015 at 8:30A.M.

Adjournment

It was moved by Gail Ashley, seconded by Sandra McNicol and carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:30P.M. **All** voted **Aye** on **Roll Call Vote**.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Keller
Secretary