

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**June 27, 2017**

**7:30 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:37P.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 2, 2017, and by telefaxing a copy of the notice to the Express Times on January 25, 2017. A copy of the notice was also posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building on January 25, 2017.**

**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  
David Posey  
Sandra McNicol  
Gail Ashley  
Thomas Ciacciarelli

**Absent**

Cynthia Niciecki  
Willard Reasoner  
Joe Zgurzynski  
Timothy Cahalin

**Public Comment – Privilege of the Floor**

No public comments.

**Minutes**

(1). Approval of May 23, 2017 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by Lois Voronin and carried to approve the May 23, 2017 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes.

**Roll Call Vote:**

<b>Aye</b>	<b>- Kratzer, Voronin, Ashley, McNicol, Posey</b>
<b>Nay</b>	<b>- None</b>
<b>Abstain</b>	<b>- None</b>
<b>Absent</b>	<b>- Niciecki, Cahalin</b>

2.

**Correspondence**

N/A

**Notice of upcoming meetings/workshops: Reminder of Dates -**

**Recycling News and Update**

Update from Recycling Coordinator Sandra McNicol

Recycling Coordinator Sandra McNicol noted on the second Saturday in July on the 8<sup>th</sup> is a clean-up day and the recycling depot will also be open. She stated there will be no clean-up days in August and September. She feels that the Clean-Up Program has been very successful so far this year.

Sandra McNicol noted there was another road clean up this time by the Oak Summit Historic Society on Oak Summit Road.

Sandra McNicol noted she submitted the township's tonnage report to the County, which will then be sent on to the State. She noted the clean communities' bills have all been paid up to this point. She will then prepare the clean communities' report for the end of the fiscal year.

**Reports**

(2). Update on the Drought Condition for New Jersey – June 2017 Chart

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that the township is in good shape at this time and this can be removed from the agenda.

(3). Letter of Interpretation Application, B1 39, L7.02 – 7 Tumble Idell Rd. - Galleria Homes, LLC

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. Sandra McNicol explained there are a lot of wetlands on the property.

(4). NJDEP - Notice of Rule Proposal – Well Construction and Maintenance – Sealing of Abandoned Well Rules, N.J.A.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed. She noted that there is a public hearing scheduled on August 10, 2017 at 10:00AM in Trenton.

**Right to Know Surveys**

N/A

**Hunterdon County Soil Conservation District**

N/A

**New Business**

(5). Environmental Commission – 2016 Annual Report Draft

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer did not have this draft this evening.

3.

- (6). NJDEP – Water Supply Plan Draft 2017 – Update
- (6b). Wetland Rule Comments to NJDEP from EC

**Debbie Kratzer and David Posey recused themselves from the participation in the meeting at this time.**

Lois Voronin noted she will be writing up comments regarding the Water Supply Plan and the wetland rule. She will first send her comments to the Commission to review and then to the Township Committee to see if they would like to comment. She noted the comments are due by July 19<sup>th</sup>.

EC Comments to NJDEP on the Draft Water Supply Master Plan – Comments Due July 19

Lois Voronin noted these comments will be sent to the NJDEP along with a cover letter from the Township Committee.

**Debbie Kratzer and David Posey returned to participate in the meeting at this time.**

Letter from EC to Kingwood Residents Regarding PennEast Pipeline Latest Mailer to Kingwood Residents to be Written

The Commission reviewed the latest mailer that was sent to Kingwood Residents from the PennEast Pipeline. Lois Voronin noted how she would like to send a letter out to the residents this summer informing everyone about the Commissions concerns regarding the Pipeline. She offered to draft a letter for next month's meeting.

Community Day – September 30, 2017 – Discount Water and Septic Programs – Discuss

Debbie Kratzer asked the Commission if they were interested in having discount water and septic cleaning this year. The Commission Members all thought it would be a good idea as it has done well in the past. Secretary Keller explained that there will be no vendors/tables set up this year at Community Day. She explained the Parks and Recreation Committee would like to keep it low key this year.

There was a discussion on testing for arsenic to protect the homeowners, especially if the PennEast Pipeline comes through. Gail Ashley suggested having links on the website regarding arsenic, so that it is easy for the public to access and learn more about it.

The Commission suggested getting quotes for the discount programs and to decide and talk about it next month in July. There will be a mailing sent out at the end of the summer with this information included for where the residents will sign up for the programs. It was suggested to have the residents contact the companies on their own and pay them directly.

Lois Voronin suggested looking for a company to do water testing that provides a chain of custody, which is a form that documents the water sample from when it is collected until it gets to the lab and gets tested. This would be more accurate especially when testing for arsenic.

4.

**Old Business**

**Update on Chris Citgo**

Sandra McNicol was in contact with a resident from Lower Oak Grove Road who she has been in contact with. She noted they reported they received a letter in the mail regarding water testing and they were not sure what to do about it. They came into the township and asked if anyone knew anything about the testing. The employees in the office did not know anything about the water testing near Chris' Citgo.

She noted speaking to the resident and that they received a survey to fill out and send back from JM Sorge Company. A letter was also sent out to the residents from JM Sorge Company explaining they will be testing the wells near Chris' Citgo. Sandra McNicol read aloud the letter to the Commission. The letter stated if there is contamination in the ground water nearby the station, it will need to be remediated. It stated the information will be on file at the NJDEP.

The Environmental Commission will be looking into this further. There are two things the Environmental Commission would like to do. First, to have a phone number at the NJDEP for people to contact and speak to someone so they can ask questions. Second, to ask the representative from JM Sorge Company if they will be remediating these wells if necessary.

**Action Items:**

**Township Committee EC Liaison – Monthly Report**

Township Committee EC Liaison, Tom Ciacciarelli commented on what the Township Committee discussed at their last meeting. He reviewed what will be happening at Community Day and also an ordinance that was passed regarding obtaining permits for portable toilets. The Commission asked Tom Ciacciarelli to find out when an update on the Master Plan will be needed. He will get back to the Commission at the next meeting. He noted that the bat houses have been put up on the township property at the Oak Summit Cemetery.

**Sustainable Jersey – Kingwood Green Team Update**

No update at this time.

**MEL – Update**

**Update from David Posey – Petitions Re: MEL**

**Update from Gail Ashley**

**(6a). Communication from Ramboll Environ – Re: MEL**

Gail Ashley noted that William Kraft notified her and requested a conference call. She gave a review of the conference phone call that took place, which consisted of two of them from Environ, William Kraft and Nick Scalla. They discussed a number of the township's concerns and a dialogue the Environmental Commission is interested in of the salt plume report. Nick Scalla noted they worked on the report last year and asked if we received it. Gail Ashley noted she replied no we never received it. She then explained he stated they are still working on it and will get it to her in a month.

5.

She explained he gave her links to reports, but that this report will need to go through the NJDEP before it is released to the Environmental Commission. She noted they discussed radioactivity and they requested she send information and reports the township received regarding the radioactivity. William Kraft acknowledged the radioactivity from MEL, which he worked on regarding the sludge in one of the ponds. She explained he stated this is the only radioactivity he knows about and would like to know more about it.

She explained they would like to have a meeting first with just the Environmental Commission before advertising a public hearing meeting that the public would be attending. The Environmental Commission would like the public to ask questions regarding their concerns and also questions they would like to know about MEL. They feel that a public hearing meeting with the representatives with Environ should be the meeting they are invited to attend to answer questions from both the Environmental Commission and also the public.

Debbie Kratzer offered to notify William Kraft from Environ by e-mail and invite him to a meeting in the fall either at the September 26<sup>th</sup> or October 24<sup>th</sup> Environmental Commission meeting. She will let them know the Environmental Commission is not interested in meeting first before inviting the public. She will invite them to a regular meeting of the Environmental Commission and will let them know they would like to discuss the salt plume at MEL, and will encourage the public to attend also.

#### **Sustainable Aquaculture Systems, Inc.**

##### Update

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that Lois Voronin went to many meetings and worked very hard and thanked her for all her research. Lois Voronin reviewed the outcome of the meeting and plans for the Sustainable Aquaculture Systems. Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted they still need to go to the Delaware River Canal Commission to get specific plans for their septic plan and storm water control. She doesn't believe they have those approvals yet.

#### **PennEast Pipeline: - Update**

(7). Letter to Delaware River Basin Commission Draft to Ban Fracking.

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer requested the letter go out in the mail tomorrow.

#### **Draft Letter to FERC – From Environmental Commission Update**

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer will be working on this letter. There were volunteers from the Commission who will meet together with Debbie Kratzer and assist writing the letter.

(8). Copy of Letter to NJDEP Commissioner – PennEast Pipeline

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed the letter.

(8a). Gas Resources East Coast USGS 2012 – 3075.2

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed the article.

(9). Copy of Newsletter for May 2017 from PennEast Pipeline

6.

Commission Members reviewed and commented on their thoughts.

Review Meeting of June 22<sup>nd</sup>, of the Lower Delaware Wild & Scenic River Management Council

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer reviewed.

Response from Township Committee Re: Draft Letter to Commission Secretary – Delaware River Basin Commission to Enact a Permanent Ban on Natural Gas Drilling and Fracking in the Delaware River Watershed

Thomas Ciacciarelli requested that a copy of this letter be sent to him to discuss with the Committee Members.

**Horseshoe Bend Park – Update**  
Pollinator Meadow Project – Update on Sign

Chairwoman Debbie Kratzer noted that a meeting has not been set up as of yet for the Management Plan for the fields at Horseshoe Bend Park.

**Site Plan Review**

(10). Planning Board - Subdivision Application – Minor Subdivision – Block 37, Lot 18 – 100 Byram Kingwood Rd.

Lois Voronin noted this was for a lot line adjustment.

(11). #1 BOA - Application Determination of Completeness – 6-14-2017 Block 17, Lot 15 – Galleria Construction

Sandra McNicol noted that this application is a Determination of Completeness.

(12). #2 BOA – Block 17, Lot 15 – Grant of Conservation Restriction/Easement

The Commission discussed the grant of conservation restriction/easement. They reviewed the site plan of the property.

Update of Open Space and Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting of June 5, 2017 from Sandra McNicol

Chairwoman Sandra McNicol of the Open Space Advisory Committee gave a review of the June 5, 2017 meeting. She noted that the Agricultural Committee met as there were not enough members for a quorum on the Open Space Advisory Committee. She explained that the township received good news regarding \$59.9 million dollars of Open Space Funds, which have been appropriated for open space by Governor Christie that has been released. She noted there are still a lot of farms on the Ag list still waiting to be preserved in the township.

**Adjournment**

It was moved by Sandra McNicol, seconded by Gail Ashley and carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:33P.M. All voted Aye on Roll Call Vote.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cynthia L. Keller, EC Secretary