

KINGWOOD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Regular Meeting Minutes

October 27, 2020

7:30PM

Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order by Mara Tippet, Vice Chairperson, at 7:31 P.M. The below Notice Requirements were read aloud.

Notice Requirements

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act and published in the Hunterdon County Democrat on February 6, 2020 and the Courier News on February 4, 2020. A copy of this Meeting notice was telefaxed to the Express Times and posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building on January 30, 2020. Notice of meeting location change from 599 Oak Grove Rd., Frenchtown, NJ to ZOOM remote for this meeting and all subsequent meetings for 2020 was published in the Hunterdon Democrat and posted in the Kingwood Municipal Building on August 20, 2020.

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

Maureen Syrnick
Betsy Combs
Mara Tippet
Timothy Cahalin
Gail Ashley
Sandra McNicol
Lois Voronin

Absent

Cynthia Niciecki
Debbie Kratzer
Ralph Celebre

Public Comment – Privilege of the Floor

Gavin Edwards from Luxfer joined the meeting for the Luxfer (MEL) update (see below).

Approval of Minutes

It was requested by the Committee that the approval of the September 22, 2020 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes be tabled to the November 17, 2020 meeting.

Correspondence

Mara Tippet indicated the last sessions of the ANJEC Congress were occurring this week and Debbie Kratzer requested she provide a summary of the sessions. Since they are not finished yet, Mara will table the overview of those sessions until the November 17, 2020 meeting.

Reports

Hunterdon County Soil Conservation District Letter of Certification: Leyva Dwelling, Block 32, Lot 1.09 was reviewed. Mara noted that the letter has the wrong address at the top as it is the same address as on the Yard letter (below). She recommends the HCSCD Letter of Certification be corrected.

Hunterdon County Soil Conservation District Letter of Certification: Yard Driveway and Demolition, Block 2, Lot 2 was reviewed.

Notice of upcoming meetings/workshops: Reminder of Dates

November 17, 7:30 pm: Next EC meeting – Please note this is a Thursday

It was noted that November 17 is not a Thursday. It is an error on the website and it was requested that it is corrected on the agenda as well as on the website.

Stewardship

All the trees were planted ahead of schedule during the Fall Tree Planting of the Lockatong Creek Riparian Buffer with the exception of the trees designated to be planted by the Americorp Ambassadors in a few weeks. Debbie is looking for volunteers to water the trees.

Well water testing and septic system pumping

Mara updated the Committee that 25 people tested their wells which is a good turnout during a pandemic. How the data is used was discussed as well as making it public. It was requested that when it is completed to link the information to the Kingwood Township Environmental Commission web page. Septic pumping is still occurring until the end of the month.

Sustainable Kingwood – Update

Ralph Celebre is working on a Fleet inventory and Cindy Keller provided the information to Ralph. Mara updated the Commission that Richard Dodds received a grant for a mapping application (Outerspatial) for residents to look up trails in Kingwood Township. The first park will be Horseshoe Bend Park.

Luxfer (MEL) – Update

Gail Ashley provided a summary of her unsuccessful attempts to get a copy of the CEA Report from William Kraft. Gavin Edwards (see Public Comment – Privilege of the Floor) indicated he would contact William to find out why and to get the report sent to the Environmental Commission. If unable to get a copy through Gavin's efforts, the EC is going to wait a month before filing an OPRA request with the NJDEP. Gavin answered questions posed by the Commission regarding radioactive materials in Pond 7, remediation, well tests and results, neighboring properties, residents' drinking water and household water. Timothy Cahalin discussed the possibility of a tour and Gavin was receptive to this idea.

PennEast Pipeline – Update

Maureen Syrnick reported that she had no new update.

Environmental Resource Inventory (ERI) – Update

Mara suggested the ERI should be broken down into manageable pieces and everyone should sign up for a section to review. It will be further discussed at the next meeting when Debbie Kratzer is present.

Open Space and Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting News and Update

Sandra McNicol updated the members that two new properties were preserved, the Pinebrook and Fleming-Dixon Farms, and are now part of Kingwood Township Open Space. Both properties are located south of and adjacent to Horseshoe Bend Park, as well as being part of the Delaware River Wild and Scenic area and the Delaware River Scenic Byway.

Planning Board News and Updates

Sandra reported that an agricultural subdivision was voted on and approved in the last meeting but she didn't have details as she missed the first meeting.

New Business

Sandra updated the members that Recycling Coordinators are required to attend an onsite recycling facility per NJDEP. She recently attended a virtual site visit at the Burlington County Resource Reclamation facility, however grant money is being withheld until an onsite visit occurs. She is also organizing a tire pick up at the DPW. There are about 150 tires to be collected and perhaps next year it could be a community event and which includes residents. Mara requested several Trex bins for recycling and is looking for suggestions for locations within the Township.

Adjournment

It was moved by Tim Cahalin, seconded by Gail Ashley and carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 PM. All present voted Aye on Roll Call Vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Hutton, Secretary