

KINGWOOD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 24, 2021
7:30 PM

Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order by Chair Debbie Kratzer at 7:32 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 and the Courier News on February 11, 2021. A copy of this Meeting notice was telefaxed to the Express Times and posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building on February 12, 2021.

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.

Due to the continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic this meeting was conducted by a virtual Zoom meeting. Information on the meeting notice was posted on the Kingwood Township website.

Roll Call

Present

Maureen Syrnick
Debbie Kratzer
Mara Tippet
Gail Ashley
Betsy Combs
Sandra McNicol
Lois Voronin

Absent

Cynthia Niececki
Ralph Celebre
Timothy Cahalin

Public Comment – Privilege of the Floor

N/A

Approval of Minutes

Motion to Approve the July 27, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Environmental Commission

It was moved by Sandra McNicol and seconded by Mara Tippet and carried to approve the July 27, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Environmental Commission.

All present from the Environmental Commission voted Aye on the Roll Call Vote.

Correspondence

Chair Debbie Kratzer stated a HCSCD Report of Compliance Letter was received for Block 24, Lot 2.05 located at 8 Bellis Lane for restoration of a ¼ acre. The members noted that this is a small area and speculated if it is in the conservation easement on the property. Sandra McNicol offered to find out if the restored ¼ acre is in the easement.

Chair Debbie Kratzer reviewed a 350-page report for Unrestricted Use Response Action Outcome - Area of Concern for Block 26, Lot 27 located at 56 Featherbed Road, Block 26, Lot 27 which was received regarding removal of a 300-gallon underground tank. The report concluded that the soil was contaminated however; the groundwater was not. The site was fully remediated.

Chair Debbie Kratzer explained a Variance Application was submitted to the Board of Adjustment (BOA) for construction of a greenhouse on Block 35, Lot 6 (343 County Route 519/The Black Shed). There are wetlands on the majority of the property and she recommends sending an email to the BOA to be mindful of the wetlands boundary before approving the variance. The members were in agreement with sending the email to the BOA.

Chair Debbie Kratzer reported a Suspected Hazardous Substance Discharge Notification was received. There were no comments regarding this notification.

Chair Debbie Kratzer stated the Environmental Commission received a memo from the Township Committee thanking them for its July 6 memo regarding the Master Plan Re-examination.

Reports

Chair Debbie Kratzer stated Sandra McNicol updated the recycling information for the 2020 Annual Report. Maureen Syrnick is waiting for information in order to update the co-op electric section.

Notice of Upcoming Meetings/Workshops: Reminder of Dates

Chair Debbie Kratzer reminded the members that the August 18th Board of Health meeting was rescheduled to September 15th. She is preparing a presentation regarding the well ordinance for the September BOH meeting.

Chair Debbie Kratzer reported the cost for the ANJEC Annual Conference is \$25.00 per person and will be held virtually from October 19 – 22, 2021.

Chair Debbie Kratzer reminded the EC members that the 4th Annual Delaware River Cleanup will be held on September 18, 2021. Sandra McNicol stated she will be participating and is looking for groups to help out.

Stewardship

Debbie Kratzer stated there wasn't anyone that participated in the August 18th Stewardship date, the next one is September 15th.

Rockfall Mitigation

Chair Debbie Kratzer submitted a memo during the public comment period of the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority's FY 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program which includes rockfall mitigation projects. She received an email from the NJTPA thanking her for the memo and alerting her that the revised document is available on their web site. She reviewed the revised document and was disappointed that it did not include changes to the rockfall mitigation projects section. She will forward the links to the Township Committee and the EC members.

Sustainable Kingwood – Update

Mara Tippet reported that the group is on summer hiatus and will regroup in September.

PennEast Pipeline – Update

Chair Debbie Kratzer shared a Delaware Currents article by Chris Mele as she felt it provided a good summary of the recent news regarding the PennEast pipeline. The EC members had no comments on the article.

Environmental Resource Inventory – Update

Chair Debbie Kratzer updated and completed the Soils chapter and will continue working on the other chapters.

Revised Well Ordinance – Update

Chair Debbie Kratzer sent the Executive Summary of the EC Well Ordinance letter to the Kingwood Township Board of Health. The members discussed the upcoming September Board of Health meeting and their desire to know the professionals who are attending along with obtaining any documents that will be discussed in order to have time to review them prior to the meeting.

Motion to Send a Letter to the Secretary of the Board of Health Requesting a List of Professionals Attending the September BOH Meeting, Copies of the Reports and/or Documents which will be Discussed at the BOH Meeting at Least 10 Days in Advance of the Meeting and to Verify the Date and Time of the September Board of Health Meeting

It was moved by Lois Voronin and seconded by Sandra McNicol and carried to approve that Chair Debbie Kratzer send a letter to the Secretary of the Board of Health requesting a list of the professional participants attending the September Board of Health meeting along with any reports/documents that will be discussed and to verify the date and time of the September BOH meeting.

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

Well Water Testing and Septic System Pumping

Chair Debbie Kratzer stated another quote was submitted after the last EC meeting when the members voted on Castle Septic (it was the only quote received) for the 2021 Discount Septic Pumping Program. Mara Tippet explained the new quote from Delaware Valley Septic was lower than Castle Septic however, there are requirements in the Delaware Valley quote which can't be guaranteed or verified. Based on these requirements of the new quote, several members suggested keeping Castle Septic for the 2021 Discount Septic Pumping Program as voted for in last month's meeting.

Motion to Accept Castle Septic as the Company for the 2021 Discount Septic Pumping Program

It was moved by Sandra McNicol and seconded by Mara Tippet and carried to approve Castle Septic as the septic cleaning company for the 2021 discount septic pumping program.

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

Old Business

The EC members thanked Mara Tippet for her hard work on the Conservation Easement fact sheet/brochure. Mara stated Richard Dodds had a few comments as well as several EC members. Mara will finalize the document and send it to the Township Committee.

Open Space and Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting News and Update

Sandra McNicol reported there was not an Open Space and Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting in August.

Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting News and Update

Mara Tippet was not present at the last Parks and Recreation meeting however, the agenda included the Township Yard Sale, which will be held on October 2nd and 3rd.

Planning Board Site Plans, News and Update

N/A

New Business

Sandra McNicol explained about the single use bag ban, which will include other items besides plastic bags such as clamshell packaging. She encouraged the EC members look at the website for more information (bagupnj.com).

Sandra McNicol reported that Hunterdon County is offering an E-Waste Recycling event on August 28th and a Shred Day on September 18th, located at the County Complex on Route 12. There is also a possibility of a Hazardous Waste event but no date has been set.

Adjournment

Sandra McNicol made a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 P.M., seconded by Lois Voronin, which was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Hutton, Secretary