

**KINGWOOD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**December 20, 2022**  
**7:30 pm**

**Call to Order**

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order by Chair Debbie Kratzer at 7:32 pm. 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 10, 2022. A copy of this Meeting notice was telefaxed to the Express Times and posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building on February 16, 2022.

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. All persons are requested to utilize the microphones which are provided for your use through your computer or phone if the meeting is being held virtually or by the Township if the meeting is being held in-person. 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**

Debbie Kratzer  
Sandra McNicol  
Timothy Cahalin  
Lois Voronin  
Maureen Syrnick  
Mara Tippet  
Betsy Combs  
Ralph Celebre

**Absent**

Cynthia Niciecki  
Gail Ashley

**Public Comment – Privilege of the Floor**

Priscilla Hayes, Kingwood Township resident and Sustainable Kingwood Green Team member, reported she added the zip codes to the addresses of landowners on the conservation easement property. Since Sandra McNicol's property is not listed on the spreadsheet (she has an easement on her property) she didn't feel the list was complete. The EC members discussed the possibility of reviewing Kingwood Township deeds to determine if there were more properties to add to the spreadsheet.

**Approval of Minutes**

**Motion to Approve the November 15, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Environmental Commission**

It was moved by Sandra McNicol and seconded by Lois Voronin and carried to approve the November 15, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Environmental Commission.

All present from the Environmental Commission voted Aye on the Roll Call Vote except for Mara Tippet, Ralph Celebre and Elizabeth Combs who were absent at last month's meeting and abstained.

### **Correspondence**

Chair Debbie Kratzer noted a Freshwater Wetlands LOI: Line Verification for 62 Fairview LLC (Block 14, Lots 39, 39.03, 39.04) was received. There was no discussion on this topic.

Chair Debbie Kratzer reported a New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection document for the Final Discharge to Surface Water Renewal Permit Action was received. Several EC members discussed the details of the discharge and treatment of the wastewater from the Kingwood Township School.

### **Reports**

N/A

### **Notice of Upcoming Meetings/Workshops: Reminder of Dates**

Chair Debbie Kratzer announced there will be a January 1, 2023 hike at Bulls Island Recreation Area if any of the EC members were interested in hiking on the first day of the New Year.

### **Rockfall Mitigation**

Chair Debbie Kratzer reported there will be a concentrated effort to get signatures for a petition and involve more politicians in the opposition of this project. Maureen Syrnick explained the New Jersey Department of Transportation requested a meeting with Kingwood Township and Hunterdon County officials on December 15, 2022 however, the meeting was postponed until January 24, 2023 due to scheduling conflicts. Chair Debbie Kratzer requested to attend this meeting. Maureen Syrnick stated the Kingwood Township Committee passed a resolution to support this project in 2015; the resolution was rescinded when the project was thoroughly understood.

### **Environmental Resource Inventory**

Chair Debbie Kratzer reported she hasn't worked on the Environmental Resource Inventory due to school obligations but will work on it soon.

### **Revised Well Ordinance**

Chair Debbie Kratzer reminded the EC members that last month it was suggested the Environmental Commission's ground water protection presentation that was created for the Board of Health meeting should be posted on the EC webpage. Maureen Syrnick reviewed the presentation and thought two slides should be updated to reflect that the well ordinance has been revised since that Board of Health meeting. Lois Voronin offered to review it as well.

### **Sustainable Kingwood**

Mara Tippet announced Kingwood Township received the Sustainable Jersey bronze recertification, which will be officially awarded at their 2023 ceremony.

### **Open Space and Agricultural Advisory Committees Meeting News**

Sandra McNicol reported there wasn't an update for the Open Space and Agricultural Advisory Committees.

### **Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting News**

Mara Tippet reported that there was a successful visit by Santa at Kingwood Park even though there was no power at the park prior to everyone's arrival.

### **Planning Board Site Plans, News**

Sandra McNicol reported there was a determination of completeness for Block 12, Lot 1 which is over 50 acres (near Route 12 and Horseshoe Bend Road) to subdivide the property into two lots. She stated there were two discussion items, one was for Block 12, Lot 33, to realign the driveway (this came before the Planning Board a few years ago and they are now returning). The second discussion was for the property at the corner of Routes 12 and 519 (formerly a bank) in which there is interest to possibly have a Dunkin' Donuts located here.

### **Recycling and Clean Communities Updates**

Secretary Debbi Hutton stated that Michele Tipton-Walters, Recycling Coordinator, reported the residents are taking advantage of the recycling container in the Kingwood Township Municipal building as it was full again. She noted Michael Ewing, Clean Communities Coordinator, did not provide an update for this meeting. Maureen Syrnick stated there is Clean Communities grant money left over and several EC members discussed how it can be used.

### **New Business**

Chair Debbie Kratzer stated the EC Reorganization meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 24, 2023. She asked the EC members if starting the meeting at 7:30 pm was still a good for everyone and the EC members agreed.

Secretary Debbi Hutton reported that Lois Voronin and Cynthia Niciecki's terms expire at the end of 2022. Chair Debbie Kratzer suggested Lois Voronin (present on call) email the Kingwood Township Clerk to state her desire to continue as a member of the Environmental Commission.

Chair Debbie Kratzer stated the Environmental Commission 2022 budget was \$1200 and approximately \$700 was spent. Maureen Syrnick suggested providing a list of possible expenses to justify the 2023 budget request. The EC members discussed ideas and items that should be included for the budget request.

Chair Debbie Kratzer shared some holiday sustainability tips provided by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection with the EC members.

### **Old Business**

Chair Debbie Kratzer asked the EC members whether they want to meet via Zoom or in-person for the January 24, 2023 Reorganization meeting. Several EC members stated they preferred meeting via Zoom.

Chair Debbie Kratzer noted there has been discussion to change the wording of the Environmental Commission ordinance (Chapter 15). She will review the changes Gail Ashley proposed and discuss it at the next EC meeting. If the EC members agree, a request will be made to the Township Committee to change the ordinance.

Maureen Syrnick stated there was excessive salting on Union Road. Mike Ewing, Kingwood Township Department of Public Works Foreman, reported it to the State Police and alerted them that it was not the Kingwood Township Department of Public Works who spread the salt on Union Road.

### **Adjournment**

Ralph Celebre made a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 pm, seconded by Lois Voronin, which was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Debra Hutton, Secretary