

MINUTES

**East Amwell Township Environmental Commission  
Business Meeting  
February 28, 2011  
7:30 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The February 28, 2011 Business Meeting of the East Amwell Township Environmental Commission was called to order by Chairperson, S. Parsons at 7:34 PM.

In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act, S. Parsons announced that this is the Regular Business Meeting of the Environmental Commission, as published in the Hunterdon County Democrat on January 27, 2011. A copy of tonight's agenda was filed with the Township Clerk and the Township Committee, forwarded to the Hunterdon County Democrat, and the Trenton Times Newspaper, distributed to the various East Amwell Township Committees and Boards, and was posted on the Township Bulletin Board.

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** S. Parsons, M. Petrus, D. Sageser, T. Robbi, J. Angelone,  
J. Bradstreet, J. Corboy (Secretary)

**ABSENT:** D. Kellogg, F. Clair, E. Feinberg B. Hummel

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** No announcements were made.

**PRESENTATION OF MINUTES:** January 24, 2011 – Reorganization Meeting

The minutes of the January 24, 2011 reorganization meeting were motioned for approval by T. Robbi, and with a second from M. Petrus, were approved with two corrections on pages two & three. There were two abstentions.

**LAST MINUTE ADDITIONS TO TONIGHT'S AGENDA:**

1. E-Mail message from T. Stahl, 2/22/11, re: Amphibian Monitoring Maps
2. Letter from B. Kibler/SBWA, 2/11/11, re: renewal of annual membership

**PRESENTATION OF BILLS:**

- |  |   |          |
|--|---|----------|
| 1. Banisch Associates, Inc. - revisions to easement maps     | - | \$360.00 |
| 2. Banisch Associates, Inc. - updated easements spreadsheets | - | \$495.00 |
| 3. South Branch Watershed Association – membership renewal   | - | \$150.00 |

Motion was made by T. Robbi to pay these invoices. Second was received from D. Sageser and all were in favor.

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**REPORTS:**

- a. Planning Board – D. Sageser informed members that the Planning Board plans on revisiting the Solar Panel Ordinance, which has been passed by the Township Committee, as it becomes necessary for further refinement, especially with regard to the SADC requirements. He also stated that the Historic Preservation Committee provided an update on the status of the proposed Historic Preservation Ordinance revision discussed at last month's Planning Board Meeting. He also stated that the Committee has an interim proposal for adopting/referencing the historic section of the Master Plan. They will be doing a fuller inventory of historic sites.
- b. Township Committee – Representative was absent this evening. Thus, no report was received.
- c. Recycling Committee – M. Petrus informed members that the Recycle Bank will be introduced into East Amwell Township. Raritan Valley Disposal has sent letters to a select number of residents. Members discussed briefly. M. Petrus will call Raritan to inquire. Clean-Up Day will be on April 30, 2011 (increased fee for SUV's to \$25) and Hunterdon County will be holding an electronic clean-up day on March 26, 2011.
- d. Farmland/Open Space Preservation – T. Robbi informed member that he has obtained a new volunteer (and alternate) from the Open Space Committee to help with the easement inspections. He also stated that there have not been many new conservation easement designated in recent years. S. Parson stated that there was one new conservation easement named in 2009 with a lot splitting.
- e. Site Review Committee – T. Robbi stated that there have no applications received.
- f. Public Outreach – No report received. M. Petrus reported that he plans on visiting the school in the near future. S. Parsons inquired if the Environmental Club at the school could report to us what they are accomplishing throughout the year. The Club includes fourth & fifth grade students. T. Robbi suggested that older alumni (6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades) of the club might be interested in joining the Environmental Commission.
- g. Conservation Easements – S. Parson stated that the conservation easement map has been updated – this map indicates easements that East Amwell Township is responsible for only. She will forward it to T. Stahl for insertion onto the website. Since no comments were received on the last of the four recent site reviews, S. Parsons suggested that we proceed with sending out the letters and reports to the owners. Copies will be sent to the Open Space Committee and the Planning Board.
- h. Stream Quality Assessment – D. Kellogg was absent this evening. Thus, no report was received. S. Parson informed members that water samplings were taken last Saturday at all sites. M. Petrus informed members that the Recycling Committee has box of gripper tools located in the storage shed and that our members might be able to borrow them when they are taking their water samplings.

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**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**a. 2011 Goals – Preliminary Discussion – Members reviewed the 2010 Goals. They decided to remove Review the Natural Resource Inventory and Sustainable Jersey Participation. Support of the venture of Plant Exchange Day was moved to Continue Public Education – Environmental Issues. T. Robbi promised to investigate the possibility of holding Sustainable Practice Demonstrations – Clawson Park – Rain Garden. Other minor word changes were suggested. Secretary will make the changes and have a copy ready for approval at the next meeting.**

**b. 2011 Plant Exchange Day - (see Correspondence # j.2 – E-Mail message from T. Stahl) Shirley Bershad and David Kyle have requested support from the Environmental Commission for their Plant Exchange Day to be held on May 14, 2011 from 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon. Members discussed. Motion was made for support from M. Petrus and seconded by D. Sageser. Vote was unanimously in favor. Discussion followed on what to do with the funds leftover from the Exchange Day – it will be left to the discretion of S. Bershad and D. Kyle. M. Petrus & T. Robbi will consider having a table of informational materials on invasive plants.**

**CORRESPONDENCE: All correspondence was listed on the 2/22/10 agenda. Last minute additions are listed earlier in these minutes. S. Parson mentioned item # j.1 – ANJEC Environmental Commission Annual Report. Members discussed the advantages of doing such a report. S. Parsons volunteered to organize a yearly report and she will share with all before sending it to ANJEC.**

**OPEN TO COMMISSION MEMBERS: No comments received.**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: None present.**

**ADJOURN: 8:50 PM Motion for adjournment was received from T. Robbi and M. Petrus seconded the motion. All were in favor.**

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Joyce S. Corboy, Secretary

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|------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| cc: Env. Com. Members              | Board of Adjustment | Board of Health  |
| Twp. Com. & Clerk                  | Democrat Newspaper  | Recreation Com.  |
| Twp. Bulletin Brd.                 | Trenton Times       | Recycling Com.   |
| Planning Board                     | Associate Members   | Agric. Adv. Com. |
| Farmland & Open Space Preservation |                     |                  |