

MINUTES

East Amwell Township Environmental Commission Business Meeting June 27, 2011 7:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: The June 27, 2011 Business Meeting of the East Amwell Township Environmental Commission was called to order by Vice Chairperson, M. Petrus at 7:30 PM.

In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act, M. Petrus 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: M. Petrus, T. Robbi, D. Kellogg, D. Sageser, F. Clair, J. Bradstreet, J. Corboy (Secretary)

ABSENT: S. Parsons, J. Angelone, E. Feinberg, T. Mathews, B. Hummel

ANNOUNCEMENTS: No announcements were made.

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES: May 23, 2011 Business Meeting

The minutes of the May 23, 2011 business meeting were motioned for approval by T. Robbi, and with a second from D. Kellogg, were approved with no corrections/additions. There were two abstentions.

LAST MINUTE ADDITIONS TO TONIGHT'S AGENDA:

- 1. E-Mail Message from D. Kellogg, 6/20/11, re: 4-H Fair Invitation – to be discussed under Public Outreach – 4-H Fair.**

PRESENTATION OF BILLS: None presented.

REPORTS:

a. Planning Board – D. Sageser stated that the Planning Board extended the review period for the Dilts property in the town of Ringoes. Owners are having difficulty with the County negotiations on access points to the property. A sub-committee has been formed to review and update the current Tree Harvesting Ordinance – trying to make it more consistent throughout the Township (Sourland and Valley zones) and with surrounding municipalities. Remediation component will be studied.

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- b. Township Committee – Representative was absent this evening. Thus, no report was received.
- c. Recycling Committee – M. Petrus stated that the Recycling Committee has approved a draft plan/job description for a Recycling Enforcer for Businesses. S. Katz and W. Harrison will request a meeting with T. Matheny to discuss this topic and ask for his assistance. S. Katz will request time on the next Township Committee agenda..
- d. Farmland/Open Space Preservation – T. Robbi informed members that two farms have closed within the last week – Rynearson and Harrison. Earlier this month, the Zuegner property closed. This brings the total of preserved land in the Township to 40%. New map indicating all of the preserved lands will be mailed with the July Tax Bill. T. Robbi informed members that East Amwell Township is only one of three townships in the County to be actively pursuing preservation. The other two are Readington and Kingwood.
- e. Site Review Committee – T. Robbi stated that he attended the first public hearing on the Everitt property. He briefly explained the situation of two lots. Hearing lasted until 11:00 PM and will continue in July. He informed members that the State issued a Letter of Interpretation on Wetlands (LOI). He asked for permission from the Commission to contact the Zoning Board of Adjustment concerning the “State Open Waters” on the property – inquiring if the applicant has obtained a “Flood Hazard Area Verification” for the site – indicating that there may be a requirement for a riparian zone to be established. Members agreed.
He briefly updated members on the second application – Block 5, Lots 1.06 & 2 (Stahl). F. Clair, E. Feinberg and he site visited the property. He briefly described the property layout to the members. They will be issuing their site visit report shortly. Hearing on this application will follow the Everitt one.
- f. Public Outreach – D. Kellogg informed members that the letters to the surrounding communities have been sent out as well as the one to all Township boards and committees. She received word from Raritan Township’s Environmental Commission Chairperson, Marianne Rampulla and will be attending their meeting on July 5. In their e-mail, they also requested our assistance with finding ways to build community support for implementing some of the action items in the Neshanic Plan. T. Robbi suggested that preserving more open space or farms is an opportunity to improve the stream situation. He also stated that FOSPC works with groups who might have people to assist in stream improvement. M. Petrus inquired if supplying them with information on our road salt study might be helpful. D. Kellogg also stated that there has been a delay in sending out the 4-H Fair booth applications. M. Petrus informed members that there will be single stream recycling at the Fair. He has not been able to contact Mavrode concerning sapling donations. Members then went on to discuss the number of tables needed, which of the surrounding townships will be sending volunteers and the number of prizes needed.

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g. Conservation Easements – S. Parson was absent this evening. Thus, no report was received. M. Petrus stated that he has not had a chance to review the sites in Block 34 that might need a site visit.

h. Stream Quality Assessment – D. Kellogg stated that she had nothing new to report on this topic.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

CORRESPONDENCE: All correspondence was listed on the 6/23/11 agenda. Last minute addition was listed earlier in these minutes.

OPEN TO COMMISSION MEMBERS: No comments received.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: None present.

ADJOURN: 8:10 PM Motion for adjournment was received from F. Clair and J. Bradstreet seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Joyce S. Corboy, Secretary

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		