

**MINUTES**  
**East Amwell Township Environmental Commission**  
**Business Meeting**  
**June 24, 2013**  
**7:30 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The June 24, 2013 Business Meeting of the East Amwell Township Environmental Commission was called to order by Chairperson, M. Petrus at 7:34 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 31, 2013. 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, D. Sageser, J. Bradstreet, J. Angelone,  
J. Corboy (Secretary)

**ABSENT:** D. Kellogg, T. Robbi, E. Johanson, S. Grace, B. Hummel

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** No announcements were made.

**PRESENTATION OF MINUTES:** May 29, 2013 – Business Meeting

The minutes of the May 29, 2013 Business Meeting were motioned for approval by J. Angelone, and with a second from M. Petrus, were approved with no additions/corrections/deletions. There were two abstentions.

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

a. E-Mail message from T. Robbi, 6/19/13, re: Reports for EC Mtg. of 6/24

**PRESENTATION OF BILLS:** None presented.

**REPORTS:**

a. Planning Board – D. Sageser reported that the Planning Board is currently updating the Master Plan. Banisch & Associates have completed their review and it is now ready for adoption.

b. Township Committee – D. Sageser stated that the Township Committee approved the 2013 Budgets. There will probably be a slight increase in real estate taxes. The Department of Public Works has been increased by one full time employee (previously part-time) and all employees will receive a 2% raise. D. Sageser also reported that we now have a new Chief Financial Officer (hired in

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April) and a person has been hired to assume the role of administrator for the Farmland & Open Space Committee as well as secretary for the three other committees: Agricultural Advisory Committee, Recreation Committee and Historic Preservation. The Township Committee also approved the pursuit of the preservation of the property mentioned below in T. Robbi's report.

c. Recycling Committee – M. Petrus informed members that he did not attend the last Recycling Committee. Thus, no report was received.

d. Farmland/Open Space Preservation – T. Robbi was absent this evening. However, he sent the following report to all via e-mail prior to the meeting.

“FOSPC – An assemblage of parcels of over 40 acres total, located on the north side of Ridge Rd. west of Lindbergh Rd., adjacent to existing county, state, and D&R preserved open space is being pursued. A 50% grant from the county, to be matched by 50% from Green Acres, is being pursued. This would expand existing preserved Sourland woodlands.

Rocktown Woods Preserve – Omick Trail: Work on the Omick Trail project continues. On the afternoon of June 18, in spite of showers, about 10 corporate volunteers from Bloomberg, joined Jim Amon of D&R and five local volunteers to continue the rough clearing of the trail. The contingent split into two groups, one proceeding west after the first stream crossing, the other east. Both groups made substantial progress, but at least half of the main loop remains to be cleared, as well as the stub over the dam at the bog area. We aspire to finish the clearing phase by mid-September.

A week earlier Jim Goodman and David Wang-Iverson did a GPS mapping of the main loop and stem south to the parking lot. They were unsure of the route at the north end of the loop, but estimate the length of the trail at 2.1 miles.

At this time 11 different volunteers (not counting the corporate) have logged 66 hours on the project since the mini-grant commenced in May.”

The next work day on the Omick trails will be June 30, 2013, per J. Angelone.

e. Site Review Committee – No report received from this Committee.

f. Public Outreach – M. Petrus reported that he checked with Staples and found out that they could do a banner for approximately \$20. He plans on checking into it more thoroughly. Letters have been sent to the surrounding communities requesting their assistance at the 4- H Fair booth. The County 4-H Fair registration forms have been received and will be delivered to D. Kellogg this evening.

g. Conservation Easements – J. Bradstreet reported that so far fifteen letters have been sent out, with five responses (one quite negative). Two site visits have been performed – one still waiting to be done. Plans were made to do the site visit for this property. Nine residents have not responded to their letters. A list of five more names was given to the secretary to issue letters.

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**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None presented

**NEW BUSINESS:** None presented.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** All correspondence was listed on the 6/24/13 agenda.

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

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

**ADJOURN: 8:00 PM** Motion for adjournment was received from J. Bradstreet and D. Sageser seconded the motion. All were in favor.

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**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**