

MINUTES
East Amwell Township Environmental Commission
Business Meeting
September 23, 2013
7:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: The September 23, 2013 Business Meeting of the East Amwell Township Environmental Commission was called to order by Chairperson, M. Petrus at 7:32 PM.

In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act, D. Kellogg 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. Kellogg, J. Angelone, D. Sageser, S. Grace,
J. Corboy (Secretary)

ABSENT: T. Robbi, J. Bradstreet, E. Johanson, B. Hummel

ANNOUNCEMENTS: No announcements were made.

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES: August 26, 2013 – Business Meeting

The minutes of the August 26, 2013 Business Meeting were motioned for approval by D. Kellogg, and with a second from J. Angelone, were approved with no additions/corrections/deletions. There were two abstentions.

LAST MINUTE ADDITIONS TO TONIGHT'S AGENDA: M. Petrus suggested a discussion of "Invasive Plant Strike Force" to be discussed under New Business.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS:

a. Invoice – Home Depot (materials for Trail Project) - \$220.00

D. Kellogg motioned for payment of this invoice. J. Angelone seconded the motion and all were in favor. (This invoice will be billed to the ANJEC Trails Grant Project.)

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REPORTS:

- a. Planning Board – D. Sageser informed members that the Planning Board approved the adoption of the Master Plan Re-Examination Report (revised Master Plan) at their September meeting – no significant changes. It will now be forwarded to the Township Committee. The Public Hearing is expected to be held in October.**
- b. Township Committee – D. Sageser informed members that the new Chief Financial Officer has resigned – taking a full-time position with Somerset County. He will be available for a certain time period to assist in the transition. Posting for a new CFO has already occurred. A second topic discussed by the Township Committee was fire assessment/awareness plan. The Office of Emergency Management has presented a plan to the Township Committee to heighten public awareness and to inform the public about planned evacuation routes. It is hoped that by the end of the year, the Township Committee will adopt this plan.**
- c. Recycling Committee – The Recycling Committee will be holding a special collection at the October Depot Day – scrap metal will be collected. Also, HomeFront will be present to collect used clothing and household items – no furniture. S. Katz requested that the Recycling Committee compose a Master Calendar of all possible recycling events.**
- d. Farmland/Open Space Preservation – T. Robbi was absent this evening. However, he did forward a brief report via e-mail for FOSPC: “Jay Watson of D&R attended last meeting and several possible acquisitions were discussed. Two lots in the Cat Tail Brook area will have a site review.”**
- e. Site Review Committee – T. Robbi was absent this evening. However, he did forward a brief report via e-mail from the Site Review Committee: “The Hess application was deemed complete. Public hearing in October. I attended the ANJEC Green Stormwater Management Workshop on 9/10, report attached.”**
- f. Public Outreach/4-H Fair – D. Kellogg stated that she had nothing to report. She did inquire of M. Petrus if any contact has been made with the school. He will follow-up with the School’s Environmental Club.**
- g. Conservation Easements – J. Bradstreet was absent this evening. Thus, no report was received.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. ANJEC Trails Project – per T. Robbi – “Trails Project Progress report submitted to ANJEC. Rough clearing of the main loop complete. Trail construction commenced 9/15.” J. Angelone added this information – foot bridge over the stream has been completed and they are currently working on steps and stone crossings over other streams. They will not be working for the next two weekends.**

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NEW BUSINESS:

a. **Invasive Plant Study** - M. Petrus presented an article on invasive plants that he had taken from the Star Ledge Newspaper recently. Members discussed – different aspects of the invasives and also how to educate the public about these dangerous plants. He suggested that the Commission might organize a Task Force, including perhaps students, to keep an eye on land in their area. D. Kellogg stated that she will check with the Hunterdon Land Trust to see what action they might be taking against invasives. She also suggested further information be gathered from other sources. M. Petrus stated that he will compose an outline of possible future action and other information he might be able to gather. Topic will be placed on next month's agenda under Unfinished Business for follow-up

CORRESPONDENCE: All correspondence was listed on the 9/23/13 agenda.

OPEN TO COMMISSION MEMBERS: D. Kellogg brought up the topic of sources for the distribution of deer meat. Hunt clubs that are allowed to hunt on preserved lands, have an excess of deer meat and are looking for outlets. M. Petras stated that he will check with the food bank, etc.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: None present.

ADJOURN: 8:15 PM Motion for adjournment was received from S.Grace and J. Angelone 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		