

MINUTES
East Amwell Township Environmental Commission
Business Meeting
April 28, 2014
7:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: The April 28, 2014 Business Meeting of the East Amwell Township Environmental Commission was called to order by S. Grace at 7:33 p.m. In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act, S. Grace announced that this is the Regular Business Meeting of the Environmental Commission, as published in the Hunterdon County Democrat on December 19, 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 on April 15, 2014.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: T. Robbi, D. Kellogg, D. Sageser, S. Grace, J. Bradstreet, J. Frederick M. Prendamano (Secretary)

ABSENT: J. Angelone (arrived late), B. Hummel, E. Johanson

ANNOUNCEMENTS: No announcements were made.

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES: March 24, 2014

The minutes of the February 24, 2014 Business Meeting were presented for approval. D. Sageser motioned for minutes to be approved with a second from T. Robbi, minutes were approved by all with three abstentions from S. Grace, J. Angelone and J. Bradstreet.

OPEN TO PUBLIC: None present

PRESENTATION OF BILLS: None

LAST MINUTE ADDITIONS: No additions to tonight's agenda.

REPORTS:

- a. **Planning Board –D. Sageser reported that the Ringoes Village Study has had a fairly good response thus far. The first public discussion will take place Saturday, May 17th at Kirkpatrick Church. The second will be held at the Municipal Building on the following Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. The idea is to hear the ideas and suggestions of the public and review the submitted forms. Recommendations will be reviewed.**

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- b. Township Committee – D. Sageser reported that an offer was made to an applicant for the position of CFO and the offer was not accepted. Another offer is on the table now. The new applicant will be working 4 – 6 p.m. the concern is providing face time with the staff. Hopefully meetings will progress with regard to the budget.**

 - D. Kellogg asked what the boundaries are for the Village of Ringoes.**

D. Sageser explained that there are no distinct boundaries but it is considered the center of Ringoes.

- c. Recycling Committee – M. Prendamano reported that the tonnage report is almost completed. She is still waiting for information from local businesses. The Township Clean Up day generated \$1,605 from 70 cars. They were \$25 short. Goodwill Industries filled a truck with recyclable items. A few children attended the last meeting. The kids expressed an interest in recycling the Styrofoam lunch trays at the school. They found a company in New Jersey that may take the trays. J. Angelone suggested speaking to the vendor that supplies food to see if they have other options.**

- d. Farmland/Open Space Preservation – T. Robbi noted that Green Fest was a nice event. Many volunteers need to be thanked. Nothing imminent at this time to report.**

- e. Site Review Committee – T. Robbi reported that the farm on Linvale has been inspected with E. Johanson and J. Angelone. There are a few variances. There will be a hearing on this property in about one month. Site review will submit their report once E. Johanson has a look at it. There is a bulk variance and a conditional use variance. They are doubling the impervious coverage as well. The property is less than 30 acres (24). There is a storm water management plan in place. J. Angelone expressed concern with the natural drainage swale. The plan is to re-direct the water to construct a riding arena. J. Angelone is questioning whether or not this will be sufficient.**

D. Sageser mentioned that F. DeGoia on Manners Road is seeking to gain a variance for a piece of property on Back Brook Road. The parcel is less than ten acres (6.6). He is proposing a single family residence on the property. The property also has a conservation easement on it and trails from the Amwell Valley Trail Association. The Commission will schedule a site inspection.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. **Well Testing – Kits will available early May. D. Kellogg will get information out via the VIP and Mr. Colt at the school. D. Sageser will announce at the Township Committee meeting and suggested having the info available on the Township Website. June 4 is the date of collection. The fees will depend on what the water is being tested for. The range is \$25 - \$400.**

NEW BUSINESS: S. Grace announced that he will be stepping down from the Commission. He is relocating his family as he has accepted a job in another state. He expressed what an honor it has been to serve the commission. He will prepare a letter to T. Stahl with regard to this resignation. The Commission will need to re-organize. T. Robbi suggested E. Johanson take the position of Chairperson. D. Kellogg will assist her. T. Robbi also noted that there is now a vacancy and the commission should begin seeking a new member.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: None present.

CORRESPONDENCE: All correspondence was listed on the 4/28/14 agenda.

All members received a copy of the proposed budget for the commission from T. Matheny. T. Robbi made a motion to approve the budget with the condition that the funds are sufficient to cover the salary of the secretary along with the ANJEC membership and workshops. J. Angelone seconded this motion. All members were if favor with one abstention from S. Grace.

OPEN TO COMMISSION MEMBERS: T. Robbi stated that the new trail is almost complete. Some parts of the trail need to be raised as it goes through wetlands. The opening is set for May 17th at 10 a.m. T. Robbi would like a Township Committee member present. D. Sageser expressed that he will be able to attend. The walk will take about one and a half hours. A. Hershey is leading the walk with T. Robbi at the end. Participants will meet at 9:45 a.m. in the parking lot at the Municipal Building to be transported to the site as parking is limited.

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ADJOURN: 8:38 PM Motion for adjournment was received from T. Robbi and D. Kellogg seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Maria Prendamano, 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**