

MINUTES
East Amwell Township Environmental Commission
Regular Business Meeting
November 23, 2015
7:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: The November 23, 2015 Business Meeting of the East Amwell Township Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:41 P.M. In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act, this is a regular Business Meeting of the East Amwell Environmental Commission, as published in the Hunterdon County Democrat on March 5, 2015. 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: T. Robbi, D. Schleifer, J. Angelone, F. Lippincott, M. Prendamano (secretary)

ABSENT: J. Bradstreet, E. Johanson, B. Hummel, D. Sageser, D. Kellogg, J. Frederick

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES: October 26, 2015

Minutes were presented for approval. D. Schleifer made suggested a correction and T. Robbi emailed a proposed change to his FOSPC report which M. Prendamano read aloud. M. Prendamano will amend. T. Robbi made a motion to approve the amended minutes which was seconded by F. Lippincott. All members voted unanimously in favor of approving the minutes from the October 26, 2015 business meeting.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS: None.

LAST MINUTE ADDITIONS: T. Robbi added "Trail Projects" under the heading New Business.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: None present.

REPORTS:

- a. Planning Board – D. Sageser was not present to report.

- b. Township Committee- D. Sageser D. Sageser was not present to report.

- d. Farmland/Open Space Preservation – T. Robbi reported that the Mudd acquisition of 2 acres was approved by the Township Committee. He is not sure if a survey needs to be done or not.

The Higgins acquisition is moving along. A site walk was conducted by the Mayor, T. Robbi and representatives from NJCS, the County Planner and Gael Gardner. FOSPC agreed to send a letter in support of this preservation. They are urged the Township to send one as well. Additional letters in support have been sent by the

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Sourland Conservancy, East Amwell Planning Board and Environmental Commission, Somerset County Planning Department and Hunterdon Land Trust. The County Open Space Committee gave a green light for the project which means some financial support. This phase is for about 150 acres. The total will be over 400 acres. This decision at the County level does not bind the Freeholders to approve it. The County may provide up to 50% of the acquisition costs.

e. Site Review Committee – T. Robbi does not have much to report. There are two projects currently with the Planning Board. One in Ringoes the Carrega Property on Old York Road. They are at 40% of impervious coverage. They can have up to 50%. T. Robbi would like to wait for D. Sageser to be present to discuss this. He thought perhaps we could send a general memo to the Planning Board. D. Schleifer wondered if the Planning Board would consider requiring new development or major revisions to include porous pavement. T. Robbi added that it could be noted that the ordinance allows 50% impervious coverage and perhaps that it too much. J. Angelone thought the question was whether or not a store was an appropriate use for the building. D. Schleifer stated the plan would be for new development or revision not specifically the Carrega Property. He suggested putting the matter off until January. M. Prendamano will add it to the agenda in January. T. Robbi mentioned that the other property is located on Dunkard Church Road. There was some discussion about the boundaries of the property and the placement of a driveway. There are several riparian zone disturbances according to the map. T. Robbi suggested taking a look at the property with J. Angelone and J. Frederick. He will also speak to M. Andrews about the property.

f. Public Outreach – D. Kellogg was not present to report.

g. Conservation Easements – D. Schleifer reported that he, J. Frederick and F. Lippincott took a look at the DeGoia property on Back Brook Road. Everything looked good to them. They took a lot of photos. He attended the Zoning Board meeting. The applicant attended the meeting and submitted plans but not the final plan. D. Schleifer added that there is no deed of easement on record in the municipal building. It may require a search on the County level.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. Penn East Pipeline: E. Johanson was not present to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Carrega Permit – This item was previously discussed under ‘Site Review’.
- b. Dunkard Church Road, Bl: 3, Lot: 3.04 – This item was previously discussed under “Site Review”.
- c. Trail Projects – T. Robbi became aware of a report of a burial site in the Omick Preserve. He did not stumble upon it during the construction of the

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trail. He is not aware of its location. There were seven operating mills in the property as well. The last one operated until the 1920's. D. Schleifer knew there was an historic application made for the area that extended into West Amwell. He does not know the status.

T. Robbi also reported that he had a discussion with Rene Jones who is a representative from Green Acres. She is in the acquisitions department. He inquired about the status of the Memorandum of Agreement to build a trail through Rambling Pines. This agreement was submitted approximately two years ago. It was assigned to the Parks and Recreation Department. He received a follow up call from someone in DEP and provided a copy of the Memorandum of Agreement. They would like to do a site walk with T. Robbi and parks staff. F. Lippincott offered to attend the site walk with T. Robbi.

CORRESPONDENCE: Various agendas/minutes from boards and committees. Letter from Eastern States Environmental Associates re: Bl: 3, Lot: 3:04

OPEN TO COMMISSION MEMBERS: D. Schleifer discussed the possibility of identifying new members to the Commission. He is uncertain if E. Johanson or J. Bradstreet will continue on.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

ADJOURN: 8:43 PM. Motion for adjournment was received from T. Robbi and J. Angelone 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		