

A special meeting of the East Amwell Township Committee came to order at 7:15 PM. Present were Mayor Peter Kneski, Deputy Mayor Dart Sageser, and Committee members Patricia Cregar, Tim Mathews, and David Wang-Iverson. Township Administrator Timothy Matheny and Treasurer/CFO Karen Baldino were also in attendance.

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, a copy of notice of this meeting was filed in the Clerk's Office, posted on the bulletin board, and sent to the Hunterdon County Democrat, Times of Trenton, and Star Ledger on January 24, 2013. The purpose of this meeting is to meet a candidate for a 2013 board or committee.

Erica Johanson, Stony Brook Road, was present to discuss her interest in the Environmental Commission. She currently serves on the Recycling Committee and has worked closely with Mike Petrus (Environmental Commission and Recycling Committee member) on projects such as the Styrofoam collection and recycling at the County Fair; Mr. Petrus told Ms. Johanson about their Commission. She believes that there is a fine balance between protecting resources and allowing people to do what they want with their land. She has always been interested in environmental issues, noting an interest in the progression of society with reasonable protection of the environment, i.e., people will "do the right thing" if you give them options. Ms. Johanson works in pharmaceuticals and is familiar with "looking for what works best to move forward without compromising everything." On a question from the Mayor, Ms. Johanson agreed that she would continue with Recycling Committee if she is appointed to the Commission.

Mrs. Cregar asked if Ms. Johanson might be interested in Recreation also, and she expressed some interest. She spoke about providing recreational activities for adults, about long time residents not familiar with preserved properties with trails in the township, and her attendance at a recent FOSPC meeting. Ms. Johanson knew the secretary for Recreation and FOSPC and expressed interest in attending a recreation meeting to see what they do.

Mayor Kneski mentioned that he would like to speak with the Recreation Committee about the Mayor's Wellness Campaign, a program established a number of years ago, to promote physical fitness in children and adults; he felt that this was something that the Recreation Committee might review. Ms. Johanson was familiar with a "well being champions" program at her work.

Mayor Kneski cautioned about overtaxing with too many meetings; Ms. Johanson said that she works in Bridgewater for a firm that operates on west coast time, so she is available for evening meetings after 7 p.m. She is interested in participating in local programs. She spoke about a friend, Pam McGovern (Historic Preservation Committee member), who is interested in all kinds of historical things. Mayor Kneski agreed that the Township Committee would consider Ms. Johanson's appointment to the Environmental Commission at their February 14th meeting, and she would be notified thereafter about appointment. The clerk will forward information on the Recreation meeting scheduled for late February.

There being no members of the public present and no further business, motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mrs. Cregar, seconded by Mr. Wang-Iverson, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Teresa R. Stahl, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk