

**MINUTES  
EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP  
Environmental Commission Business Meeting  
March 25, 2019  
7:30 P.M**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

**STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE:**

The March 25, 2019 Business Meeting of the East Amwell Township Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:39 p.m. Secretary, G. Brewi announced that this business meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. This is a Business Meeting of the East Amwell Environmental Commission, as published in the Hunterdon County Democrat on March 21, 2019. A copy of tonight's agenda was filed with the Township Clerk and the Township Committee, forwarded to the Hunterdon County Democrat, distributed to the various East Amwell Township Committees and Boards, and was posted on the Township Bulletin Board.

**ROLL CALL:**

**ATTENDANCE 2019:**

<b>Environmental Commission Member</b>	<b>1/28/19</b>	<b>2/25/19</b>	<b>3/25/19</b>	<b>4/22/19</b>	<b>5/20/19</b>	<b>6/24/19</b>	<b>7/22/19</b>	<b>8/26/19</b>	<b>9/23/19</b>	<b>10/28/19</b>	<b>11/25/19</b>	<b>12/16/19</b>
<b>Joe Angelone</b>	X											
<b>James Edwards</b>			X									
<b>Frances Gavigan</b>	X	Via Phone	X									
<b>Tom Rue</b>	X	X										
<b>Patsy Wang-Iverson</b>	X	X	X									
<b>Lisa Davis</b>	x	X	X									
<b>Kevin Ostrander (alt. I)</b>	X											

*Others present: Gail Brewi, Kathy Wolfe  
Township Committee Liaison: None Present*

**PRESENTATION OF MINUTES:**                      January 28, 2019 Reorganization Meeting  
February 25, 2019 Business Meeting

Minutes of January 28, 2019: Motion to carry approval of the draft minutes was made by L. Davis and seconded by J. Edwards due to an insufficient number of eligible voting members in attendance for approval of the minutes from this meeting.

Minutes of February 25, 2019: Motion to carry approval of the draft minutes was made by J. Edwards and seconded by L. Davis due to an insufficient number of eligible voting members in attendance for approval of the minutes from this meeting.

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**BILLS OF THE EVENING**

Secretary G. Brewi requested approval of payment for EC member to attend the NJ Sustainability Summit. Motion was made by J. Edwards and seconded by L. Davis to approve (1) \$35 ticket for member, P. Wang-Iverson to attend the NJ Sustainability Summit Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup>.

**LAST MINUTE ADDITIONS**

Chair, F. Gavigan noted the following additions to the agenda for discussion;

Environmental Commission Annual Reporting – A sample of an annual report from Red Bank Borough was distributed via e-mail by P. Wang-Iverson for consideration as a foundation for an East Amwell EC annual report. F. Gavigan read from the statute that under the Environmental Commissions powers and duties the statute states that the Commission shall make an annual report to its governing body. P. Wang-Iverson inquired about the submission of the same from other East Amwell committees to the Township Committee. It is believed that no prior annual reporting exists for EC. P. Wang-Iverson shared that based on information obtained at an ANJEC training she attended that the annual report is the responsibility of the EC chair. F. Gavigan stated she will produce an annual report moving forward with input and contribution of data from the Environmental Commission members and suggested further discussion should take place next month.

NJCF Survey – Members were asked to participate.

E-Mail Correspondence dated 3-21-19 from P. Wang-Iverson re: Township Committee Meeting of 3/14/19.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

No public comments. Motion to close to the public was made by L. Davis and seconded by J. Edwards.

**REPORTS:**

Chairperson

Chair, F. Gavigan was welcomed as the new chair appointed by Mayor Wolfe. The new chair asked for patience from the members as she is requesting a review of the commissions' current processes' and tasks. The Chair, believes the Environmental Commission should do a better job communicating (both internally and externally), tracking and updating (environmental information), and conducting township site visits. The Chair welcomed all ideas and suggestions from the EC members to improve processes. Proceeding forward all communication should be

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sent directly to Chair with a cc to the EC Secretary. It was expressed that a better understanding of the budget and burn rate of the same is needed as the commission moves forward. The focus of the EC should be on the work and tasks needed to accomplish the commissions charge with any other business remaining outside of the meeting to best accomplish tasks and operate efficiently as a commission. Members should provide the Secretary with a list of relevant items or topics the environmental commission should act on, consider and track to more efficiently conduct business.

Financial Report

Member, P. Wang-Iverson shared that there is \$500 allocated in the budget for training and conferences. Year to date an expenditure of \$350 has been made for the Annual ANJEC dues, leaving \$150 in the budget. Chair, F. Gavigan advised the members of the necessity to maintain the operating budget for 2019 and cautioned members about incurring unnecessary payroll or professional expenditures.

**Committee Liaison Reports:**

AG Advisory - (F. Gavigan) No Report Provided.

Planning Board (F. Gavigan)

Liaison F. Gavigan updated. There are currently (3) applications before the Board for review: 23 Mountain Road, DDB Partners property (Route 31/202), and Wertsville Road. Characteristics could not be discussed, nor comments made as Chair, F. Gavigan will be a voting member for the applications. It was a unanimous opinion that the EC should review all site plan applications and conduct site visits.

Township Committee (R. Wolfe)

No report was provided.

Recycling Committee (TBD)

No report was provided as there is currently no liaison.  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday monthly

Recreation Committee (TBD – J. Edwards to advise availability)

No report provided as there is currently no liaison.  
Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday monthly

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Farmland/Open Space Preservation Committee (TBD)

No report provided as there is currently no liaison.

Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday monthly

Board of Health (TBD)

Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday monthly

It was determined that a consideration should be made for the liaison role to change based on our current commission membership and vacancies. A proposal will be made so that liaison members do not need to attend monthly meeting but, instead serve as a conduit for the information back to the EC. Secretary to provide each committees' meeting dates as stated above. Further discussion at next month's meeting.

**Sub-Committee Reports:**

Public Outreach Committee (L. Davis, P. Wang-Iverson, J. Edwards)

Chair, F. Gavigan discussed the Township website and utilization of the EC page as a depository for documents. Topics with Environmental value or interest for residents should be provided and discussed monthly to rank validity. P. Wang-Iverson discussed the existing mapping of all watersheds in EA. Chair, F. Gavigan noted that such a topic is ideal to share with residents on the EC page of the website. Further discussion to explore using web site as a depository for membership resource vs. sharing of pertinent information for the public along with execution of updating the web site will follow at a future meeting. Chair, F. Gavigan will follow up with A. Castellano.

Member, P. Wang-Iverson updated. Tree Seedlings giveaways will be provided at the Color Run and at the monthly recycling depot on May 4<sup>th</sup> as well as the Plant Swap on May 18<sup>th</sup>. A total of 800 seedlings will be provided. (2) Volunteers will be needed for each event.

Site Review Committee (J. Angelone, P. Wang-Iverson & F. Gavigan)

Chair, F. Gavigan and P. Wang-Iverson will coordinate site visit date and time to visit the DDB Partners property (Route 31/202). F. Gavigan discussed comments relative to 23 Mountain Road, B 40.02 L 17 and B 40.03 L 3. It was shared that a wetlands determination is being completed and will be considered. Member, J. Angelones' report was briefly discussed as identifying Stormwater concerns. The Mountain Road application has since been withdrawn.

Member, P. Wang-Iverson shared that ANJEC has a site plan checklist which she will provide for consideration as a tool to be used by the EC in the future for uniformity of reporting on site visits.

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Easements Committee (J. Angelone & P. Wang-Iverson)  
No report provided.

NRI/ERI (L. Davis, F. Gavigan)

Discussions were had regarding the current information which has been accumulated and directionally how to proceed with the information. Chair, F. Gavigan provided an overview regarding the various pieces of the existing ERI which can be used and combined with the volumes of information she has accumulated over the years and the public information available. Member, L. Davis reminded the commission that she also had previously gathered and accumulated information for the approximate timeframe of 1990 to 2017. Member, L. Davis stated that question remains on how the commission can evaluate and identify the relevant information to utilize.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Helistop: Members have all been provided with updates as available regarding the status of the application from Mayor Wolfe.

Well Water Testing: Testing will be offered April 1<sup>st</sup> through April 16<sup>th</sup> Kits will be available to residents for testing and return to municipality. Chair, F. Gavigan will provide the information to A. Castellano for posting on the township web site. Member, P. Wang-Iverson reminded the commission that there was a March VIP article published to inform the public about the program.

Hunterdon County Community Day: Carried for discussion at next month's meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Meeting Minutes: Chair, F. Gavigan will discuss the use of audio instead of producing written minutes which the Chair will further discuss with A. Castellano and Mayor Wolfe.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

There was no need to re-open to the public.

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**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- E-Mail Communication, 3-1-19 from K. MacDonald, Raritan Headwaters re: Spring 2019 Seminars
- E-Mail Communication, 3-4-19 from Sustainable Jersey re: Sustainability Summit June 14, 2019
- E-Mail Forwarded, 3-9-19 from Terri Stahl, re: Request for resolution, NJ Green Amendment
- E-Mail Communication, 3-19-19 from the Watershed Institute re: Flood Defense Act
- E-Mail Communication, 3-19-19 from the Watershed Institute re: Stream Cleanups

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to close the meeting was made by J. Edwards and seconded by P. Wang Iverson and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:21 p.m.

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Gail Brewi  
Environmental Commission Secretary