

COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES OF
MARCH 8, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by Chairman Nardone.

He announced that the meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Present: Ken McGill, Pat Smith, Amy Wright, John Nardone and Julie Gandy. Absent: Jim D'Ambrosio.

Minutes: Minutes of January 12, 2016 will be voted on at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

ANJEC: Julie reported she and Pat attended Citizens United sponsored Ameri-Corps NJ Watershed Ambassador Program at the Millville Library on February 26, 2016. Turbidity test that measures the dense current of sediments in suspension moving along the slope and bottom of a lake can only be performed in non-tidal water. Basic instructions for using NJ GeoWeb are on DEP website. NJWQ lists monitoring locations.

2016 grants up to \$1500.00 for Open Space Stewardship Projects applications are due Friday, April 1, 2016

She and Amy attended the course on Fundamentals for Effective Environmental Commissions on Saturday, March 5 from 9 to 1:30 at the Riverwinds Community Center. Several nuggets: There should be dedicated line item in township budget for grants received; review tax sales for potential open space/recreation parcels; do we have "Overlay Ordinance" for stream buffers, can be stricter than state or Pinelands requirements; does LUB have checklist for applications, yes; DEP is proposing new regulations (less restricted) for stream buffers but will not affect C-1 streams; are cemeteries addressed in Master Plan under History Element?; refer to NJ GeoWeb for soil information; information was geared more toward urban/suburban communities; Amy recommended that there be different seminars geared toward urban, suburban and rural communities; when was our ERI (Environmental Resource Inventory) last updated?; need to compare site plans and subdivision plans to ERI and Master Plan; LUB should have copies of ERI; ANJEC library has over 200 samples of ERIs; Upper Deerfield is updating their ERI; GeoWeb list funding resources. Ken reported that the LUB does not have copies of ERI and we so have wetlands buffer ordinance.

Sustainable Jersey: Pat reported that we are currently in the Bronze category with 150 points. We need 40 points to update to the required 150. This is mostly due to certain categories lasting only a year. She asked the following commissioners to write a short (300 words) paragraph: Ken – LUB site plan review; Amy – Plastic bag /Green Team; Julie – recycling/shredder; Jim – Quail Project; John – Tree Ordinance.

There are several grants available during the year so we should review in the last quarter of the year to see which grants we can and should apply for. There are two (2) upcoming webinars on March 25th and June 16th on energy. Julie reported that she met an Environmental Commissioner from Monroe Township. They joined a tri county networking group for sustainable jersey help. We could attend the meetings even though we are not from Gloucester, Camden or Atlantic counties.

Plastic Bag Recycling: Pat reported we collected 120 lbs of bags which will be included in Sustainable Jersey report.

Status of Signs at Lake Audrey: John reported that there will be a photo-op on Sunday the 13th at 2pm at Lake Audrey, weather permitting. The Satellite sign is installed. The project cost \$1485 in total. The State did a great job installing the signs.

Monofilament Project: John reported he got quotes on 6" PVC pipe 10' long plus other materials needed from Lowes, in Mays Landing. Clint can provide the zip ties and we still have the labels for the five (5) locations. The goal is to have them installed by summer.

Regional Environmental Commission Project/Brochure: Ken reported the call the Downe and Maurice River environmental commission but had no response. He will contact the Mayors next.

Canvas Bags: John reported he will get quotes for bags.

CORRESPONDANCE: None

Public Comment: Motion by Ken seconded by Pat to open the public portion of the meeting. Motion approved. Dale Schweitzer. 1761 Main Street, Port Norris stated he is interested in applying for the commission and was here to watch and learn.

Ken made motion to close the public portion seconded by Pat. Motion approved.

Motion by Ken seconded by Pat to adjourn. Motion approved at 8:16pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Gandy, Secretary

Minutes of January 12, 2016 and March 8 were approved on April 12, 2016. There was no meeting in February.

cc: Twp. Committee
CTEC members