

COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES OF

JANUARY 13, 2015

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by Secretary Gandy. She announced that the meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

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

Secretary called for a motion for Chairman. Motion by Ken seconded by Walt to nominate John Nardone. Jim motioned to close the nominations. Motion to elect John as Chairman was unanimously approved.

Secretary called for a motion for Vice Chairman. Motion by Ken seconded by Pat to nominate Walt. Jim motioned to close the nominations. Motion to elect Walt as Vice Chairman was unanimously approved.

Secretary called for a motion for Secretary. Motion by Ken seconded by Pat to nominate Julie. Jim motioned to close the nominations. Motion to elect Julie as Secretary was unanimously approved.

Minutes: Motion to approve minutes of December 9, 2014 by Ken seconded by Walt. Minutes approved.

OLD BUSINESS

ANJEC: Julie reported that our annual membership is due. Motion by Walt seconded by Ken to pay dues including the workshop fee. Motion approved. John will be reminded to contact Mayor Moore.

Sustainable Jersey: Pat reported she forgot the webinar on January 7, 2015 about Small Grants of \$200,000 that are available until February 1, 2015. The Green Team has until 2016 to complete tasks for Bronze. She believes the plastic bag recycling program will be eligible.

Plastic Bag Recycling: Pat reported she moved the container from the Bayshore Center at Bivalve to the Port Norris Post Office since there is not much activity this time of year. Information will be placed in the Township Calendar and in *The Reminder* about this program according to Mayor Moore.

Invasive Species Ordinance: Report deferred until February.

Milk Weed Planting: Walt reported that it needs to be planted in February and needs sunlight to sprout and cold weather. He found out the seeds do not need to be germinated but simply broadcasted and covered with small amount of dirt. Laurie will let us know a date and time. Jim reported he could broadcast some seeds as part of his Quail Project on Dragston Road which is in the second phase of a six (6) year project.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ken reported that the Menantico Preserve, a tract of land off Route 55 known as Holly Farm purchased with Green Acres funds is proposed for diversion to Millville to sell for industrial use. Other sites are available for redevelopment where runoff will not impact Menantico River. January 20, 2015 is the cut off for public comment. He recommended we write letter in support of keeping the land as Green Acres open space.

Lake Audrey Signs: Julie reported that John is working on 20 vegetation identification signs to send to Barry Fisher.

CORRESPONDANCE: None

Public Comment: Motion by Walt seconded by Ken to open the public portion of the meeting. Mayor Moore said he wants to thank the Commission personally for all the work we have done. He said we are hard working and dedicated. He is grateful that the Commission is still operating from 1987 when he started it. His interest is in recycling and wants to provide large containers to the residents to help them recycle even more. The containers cost \$48.00 each which translates to \$90,000 for every residence. He is working on funding ideas and likes our recommendation to try a pilot program. Franklin Township has seen a definite increase in their recycling totals. He said Brookline, MA passed an ordinance banning plastic bags.

Ken asked if the township gets either cash or credit for tonnage. Mayor Moore said the township gets credit which they report to the State who then gives us money.

Mayor Moore also said the township web site will be revamped and will have a dedicated page for the Commission.

The Commission thanked the Mayor for attending and said we will continue to provide assistance as requested.

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

Ken reported that the Eagle Fest will be on Saturday, February 5th.

Julie reported that we will discuss our 2015 goals at **our next meeting on February 10, 2015**. Motion by Pat seconded by Jim to adjourn. Motion approved at 8:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Julie Gandy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Julie" and last name "Gandy" clearly distinguishable.

Julie Gandy, Secretary

Minutes of December 9, 2014 approved on January 13, 2015.

cc: Twp. Committee
CTEC members