

COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES OF

March 10, 2015

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, Walt Birbeck, Amy Wright, John Nardone and Julie Gandy.  
Absent: Jim D'Ambrosio.

Minutes: Motion to approve minutes of February 10, 2015 by Ken seconded by Pat. Minutes approved. Walt Birbeck abstained.

OLD BUSINESS

ANJEC: Julie had no report.

Sustainable Jersey: Pat reported we need to make up 40 points due 6/30/2016.

Plastic Bag Recycling: Pat reported she collected the bags from Lallie's. Walt will collect them in the future. John sent emails to Vineland, Millville, Dividing Creek, and Maurice River explaining our program. Pat reported that Tony Riviera, CCIA, will give us 400 cloth bags with flyers about plastic recycling which we will give out at Bay Day. Amy recommended we have one of the containers at Bay Day also. Pat also has a copy of the Brookline, MA ordinance banning plastic bags. (copy attached to official minutes)

Bamboo Ordinance: John reported that the township attorney has questions. John will attend the township meeting on March 16<sup>th</sup>. He contacted Mr. Weiderhold from Laurel Lakes who said he took his neighbor to court. The Judge told his neighbor he had 3 days to remove the bamboo.

It was recommended we have flyers at Bay Day on the problems with bamboo.

Milk Weed Planting: Walt reported that February was a little "frosty" but he will be spreading the seeds soon on the little peninsula where the road loops around.

He recommended that we publicize our events in the paper and on our website/facebook page.

John told the commission that Mayor Moore complimented us on our annual report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lake Audrey Signs: John reported Barry Fisher has the information for the 18x18 inch sign. He may do a prototype of the 20 vegetative signs. The remainder of the grant will be for the narrative and lake location signs. He will ask the state to install.

Fishing Line Project: John reported this project is on hold.

Ken inquired about church sign on North Ave. Pat said it should be installed soon by the Chamber of Commerce.

CORRESPONDANCE: None

Public Comment: Motion by Walt seconded by Pat to open the public portion of the meeting. Motion approved. Seeing no one Walt made motion to close the public portion seconded by Ken. Motion approved.

Motion by Walt seconded by Pat to adjourn. Motion approved at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Julie Gandy, Secretary

Minutes of February 10, 2015 approved on March 10, 2015.

cc: Twp. Committee  
CTEC members

## May 12, 2015 Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes

Present: Jim, Ken, John, Amy, Pat Absent: Julie and Walt

John called the meeting to order.

Julie and John attended a workshop on the Cohansey Aquifer. Water is being depleted faster than being replaced. People are being advised to reduce sprinkling lawns and using water unnecessarily.

ANJEC = Julie is kept informed of all Anjec events and notices. If any questions, check with her.

Sustainable Jersey = Pat passed out a chart of all S. J. events for this month. She reported that there are no small grants available at this time.

Bamboo ordinance = The lawyer for the township reviewed the ordinance and It was suggested we identify sites where bamboo is located in the township to determine the extent of the problem. If a property has bamboo, it must be contained in a proper container. John will research what determines a proper container. If a homeowner sells a house with bamboo on the property, the owner is responsible to let the buyer know that there is an ordinance concerning this. Property that is gifted or a foreclosure or someone whose property is being infringed upon need to be aware of the possible problems involved. Unless a complaint is filed concerning bamboo, we do not have to react.

If the bamboo has to be removed the time period to do so would be changed from thirty days to 90 days. So far 2 sites with bamboo have been identified in Mauricetown, 4 in Port Norris and Laurel Lake still needs to be checked. When final changes are made, this ordinance will be resubmitted to the township. Someone will attend a work meeting to explain how much of the township is being impacted.

Fishline recycling = John has found the 6" PCB to be too expensive. He saw a place where 4" pipe was being used and it was much less expensive and very effective. Nothing was decided at this time.

Plastic bags = John sent emails to all surrounding townships about our bag project. Jodi Carrera, Anjec rep., was very interested in how we involved the schools. No decision on their part to commit to this. Pat questioned how to get people more aware of changing from plastic to reusable bags. Ken suggested a bag exchange: so many plastic bags for a reusable one. Jim offered to contact the corporate office of Dollar General to see about possibly placing a recycle barrel at their store in Laurel Lake.

Lake Audrey signage = Four signs are in place. The original format for the design designating various flora was denied by the NJ Div. of Forestry. A new design was sent to John which we all found to be satisfactory. At this time Barry has not completed the signs we ordered. Anjec grant time period is coming to an end in May. John talked with Carry Miller and she said as long as we are working on our project we will be given extra time. John gave a possible date as the end of June for completion. The original grant was for \$1500. We will have spent \$1000 when the current signs are done.

We would like to have 2 more: a narrative of the history of the lake and a satellite map . These will cost about \$700. We will be reimbursed \$500 from the grant. Amy will look into a map and Jim will get info for the narrative.

Bay Day = June 6. Will have a recycle barrel with the info and picture we used at the school presentation on plastic bags. Also the county will provide us with more reusable bags to give out. The shredder will be there again as well. Jodi said Anjec has games we can borrow.

Quail project = Jim reported that The Audabon Society has a sponsor in U. S. Silica. They offer plans for developing habitat. Phase 1 is completed which involved discing and planting seed on 20 acres. Phase 2 will involve opening another section for the future.

The public portion was opened and closed by Ken McGill.

Ken attended a work meeting where there was talk about a cell tower coming to the area No decision at this time.

Ken moved to close the meeting. Jim seconded. Agreed by all

*Prepared by  
Pat Smith*