

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

P. O. Box 1106 523 Egg Harbor Road

Turnersville, New Jersey 08012

856/589.0520, Ext. 232

wtec@twp.washington.nj.us

(Approved at March 3, 2016 Meeting)

Minutes of February 4, 2016 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Vicky Binetti in Chairman Leon Lakritz's absence. Attending tonight's meeting were Harry Larzelere, Lola Pellegrino, Russ Price, Rich Fini, Jodi Smith, John Boyer, Ann Culkun, Chet Nawoyski, and guests Giancarlo D'Orazio and Chris Fosler. The minutes of the January 7, 2016 meeting were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Harry Larzelere reported a balance of \$511.88 as of 2/4/16.

Guests

Washington Square Town Center, located on Hurffville-Cross Keys Road – Ted Wilkinson, engineer with Adams, Rehmman and Heggan, Inc. provided an overview of this project and answered questions presented by the Commission. This development is located in Tier 1 and 2 of the wellhead protection area for Well #19 and will require conditional use approval for at least the following regulated land uses: stormwater management structures, stormwater conveyance and sanitary sewage conveyance. Applicant (Washington Square Urban Renewal/Woodmont Properties) originally requested waivers from an Environmental Site Assessment (Phase I ESA), Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), a Tree Replanting and Removal Plan, and a Tree Removal Permit; however, copies of those documents were recently prepared and/or submitted. Vicky Binetti prepared preliminary comments for the Commission's consideration which were discussed in detail. Among the concerns noted were outstanding items from the Phase I ESA (e.g., NJDEP file review, soil sampling); errors in preparation of the Tree Planting and Removal Plan, including compensation for trees removed, and errors in the tree removal permit application; the applicant's "open space" set-aside proposal; absence of low impact

development checklist to document how nonstructural stormwater management strategies were considered; and miscellaneous other items regarding stormwater management. Additional recommendations were made for the protection of ground water in the wellhead protection area, including ground water monitoring in the vicinity of the stormwater basins, and ground maintenance and spill prevention and response plans. Vicky Binetti also inquired as to the number of rain gardens planned and suggested that they be placed in the vicinity of the perforated underground pipe in lawn areas. John Boyer expressed a concern regarding roof runoff, and Mr. Wilkinson stated that water will be piped to the stormwater collection system. Chet Nawoyski asked if generators would be installed, and Mr. Wilkinson noted that if any are installed at the assisted living facility, they would be natural gas and not diesel. Soil sampling has been completed, and a report will be coming out shortly. John Boyer suggested consideration be given to put a walkway connecting the Virtua property to the rear buildings of this project for convenience of pedestrians.

At the conclusion of the discussion, a motion was made by John Boyer, seconded by Chet Nawoyski, that a letter be prepared by Vicky Binetti setting out our recommendations based on tonight's comments. The motion was unanimously approved.

Old Business

Workshop Meeting

There was no workshop meeting held in January.

Clean Up Day/Clean Up Awareness Campaign

Clean Up Day will be held on Saturday, October 8, 2016.

Recycling/America Recycles Day

Vicky Binetti reported that meetings with school administrators will help build an ongoing relationship, that will hopefully include students participating in a recycling campaign in the schools.

Planning Calendar

There were no new events to add to our planning calendar.

Earth Day

Vicky Binetti announced that the Environmental Commission will hold a workshop meeting on February 18th to begin the planning of our Earth Day celebration. The Commissioners agreed that we will continue to sponsor environmental activities and events to engage residents throughout the Township instead of the fair-type event held in previous years in the Park. Additionally, Vicky mentioned that Arbor Day will be held on April 29th and will provide an opportunity to coordinate with Earth Day activities given its emphasis on trees.

Sustainable Jersey

Vicky Binetti will meet with Mayor Barbara Wallace and Business Administrator Bob Smith to discuss what activities the Green Team has begun towards obtaining a bronze certification as part of the Sustainable Jersey program. A resolution was passed last year by Council to begin the process.

Stream Sampling

A meeting took place with the elementary school instructional team, Leon Lakritz and Vicky Binetti. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss resuming stream sampling in the spring or fall of 2016. Officials expressed interest in having 5th graders participate and combine it with a water quality educational element in the classroom.

New Business

Planning & Zoning Boards

Rich Fini highlighted the applications before the Planning Board:

- ***Meeting on January 19, 2016***
 - Steve Ciemny, located at 400 Delsea Drive. Minor site plan for two houses. This application was previously approved, but small changes were required.
 - Washington Square Urban Renewal, located at 257-269 Hurffville-Cross Keys Road. Preliminary and final major subdivision and site plan. No vote was taken at this meeting.
- ***Meeting on February 2, 2016***
 - No applications were heard, only resolutions.

ANJEC Grants

It was announced by Vicky Binetti that applications for ANJEC open space stewardship grants in the amount of \$1500 are due in April 2016 if the Commission wishes to apply. Suggestions for grant-funded projects to date included improving the trail around Washington Lake, restoring the drought garden, and repairing the foot bridge over the spillway near Cedar Pond.

Committee Reports

Open Space

Reorganization took place at the January meeting. Leon Lakritz was elected Chairman, and Bob Starrantino was elected Vice Chairman.

Council

No report in Sean Longfellow's absence.

Correspondence

No correspondence

Announcements

- ANJEC Training Seminar, Fundamentals for Effective Environmental Commissions, is scheduled for March 5, 2016 at the River Winds Community Center in West Deptford.
- Gloucester County Nature Club Potluck Dinner will be held on February 11, 2016. The film "Bag It" will be shown; the film deals with the ubiquity of plastic bags and other plastic items in our lives.
- Gloucester County Nature Club will hold "Bird Quest" on May 7, 2016.
- A portion of McClure Drive will be renamed to Frank Campbell Drive honoring the late Washington Township Public Works supervisor.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Submitted by:

/s/Dorothy Hunter

Dorothy Hunter, Secretary
Washington Township Environmental Commission