

PEQUANNOCK TOWNSHIP  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday, November 12, 2008; 7:30 PM  
Pequannock Town Hall  
Second Floor Conference Room

Minutes

A) Call to Order

B) Roll Call

(Tom N., Jim, Frank, Jen, Tom A., Lisa, Joe)

Guests: *Christopher Lotito (Historic District Commission clotito@gmail.com),*

*Ross Kushner (Pequannock River Coalition)*

C) Public Comments

D) Special Presentations

Ross Kushner, Executive Director, Pequannock River Coalition,  
Pequannock ERI update

*“All maps drafted, text 50% done but need guidance on some issues:”*

- 1) Traffic – do we have an update of traffic studies- Contact Christopher DePuy, Sergeant/Community Services*
- 2) Wisconsin glacial map – needs digital version*
- 3) Flood maps – DEP has only scanned maps – see if Tom Newman can find something better. If we have something better, he can digitize them. Maybe something could be done with watershed management area information. Will remove references to a “flood tunnel”.*
- 4) Number of houses in flood zone bought out – Frank will help him find the properties – said there were 61 houses in floodway, town has purchased 23 of them – Frank will update.*
- 5) Need information on aquifer system in town.*
- 6) Sewage statistics/costs, etc. – ask Peter Correale.*
- 7) Mountainside Park north of this is private – owned parcel – need name of owner.*
- 8) DEM – topographic maps – he has not found good electronic ones.*
- 9) Contaminated sites, 2008 list and latest map is 2005 sites.*

E) Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes

10/8/2008 *Tom Newman and Frank*

F) Budget Report (Tom A.) – 11/10/2008 - \$248.00 balance

G) Chairperson's Report (Tom N.)

*1) ERI Quarterly Report: Tom N to submit Friday. Will report on activities since August 15, including ERI kickoff, Ho Down, initial review of maps, provide info to PRC, historical section, open space cell towers, etc. Will need info...*

- 2) *ERI in-kind services: please give Tom N. your hours for activities related to ERI. (Frank: time spent getting the groundwater report for Ross, Tom A. historical section, etc.) (Tom N to send Frank a copy of his previous estimate).*
- 3) *ERI milestones: review of PRC progress (tonight and/or future Nov mtg)*
- 4) *ERI milestones: need public solicitation for photographs “contest” mentioned at Ho Down. Tom N to submit something to Suburban Trends; also will post something at town hall. Schools – Tom N can alert Dave of HS Enviro Club.*
- 5) *ERI request of Groundwater Report: Frank asked at Council Mtg.*
- 6) *Blue Line surveys – let’s schedule some – need to be on weekends for daylight, unless people can do them during the week. Tom N is planning on taking most Fridays off between now and end of year. Would like to begin with area where received complaint (Village). Suggest that initially at least 2 people do this together, take photos and log each one for future reference.*
  - a) *Put a marker on a tree or get GPS cords for photos.*
  - b) *Get a list of areas for Peter to send out notices to homeowners. Village – Nov 22/23rd*
  - c) *Tom N to send email and suggested start time.*
  - d) *See if we can get orange vests. Borrow from DPW? Joe will get info from the League.*
- 7) *Membership – Jim I. sent in letter of intention not to renew in Jan 09.*
- 8) *Budget: end of year purchase ideas: shirts, CFLs for public buildings, orange vests.*
- 9) *Library Presentation by Tom N. – Tom N submitted a copy of his Cedar Crest presentation to Rose Garwood, Library Director, this week.*
- 10) *Recycling Day – Tom N will call MCMUA about this spring. It will be up to MCMUA to see if they want to return.*

#### H) **Town Council Liaison Report (Joe)**

- 1) *Michael Obremski is new manager for JCPL (storm outages, lighting)*
- 2) *Energy Audit – Peter Correale says it this being pursued – we told a company that we are interested in getting the energy audit done for Town Hall, DPW, Animal Shelter, Senior House – grant money is available – we are getting our foot in the door.*
- 3) *Econo-New Online site – send shipping label for free shipping for all kinds of things. You go to site: pick drop off sites, and they will pay you a store voucher. <http://www.econewonline.com/>*
- 4) *1000 bulbs.com – to purchase new bulbs.*
- 5) *Garbage Advisory Committee – looking at option for recycling sites.*
- 6) *Message trailer is now in service – available for us (for HHW pickup) – request through Peter.*

#### I) **Planning Board Liaison Report (Marty)**

*Absent, Joe says things are quiet.*

J) Open Space Liaison Report (Frank)

- 1) *Tom N: Highlands Act – town could get another year for COAH if town considers being in Preservation Area, if we act now and say we are considering.*
- 2) *Properties that Open Space: Speciale property (behind TD/Commerce Bank)*
- 3) *4 houses – Purchase of 3 properties will close in November (including Sabini property (Harrison St.) in next week or so) plus another in December. Two houses we already own will be torn down (looking to use Green Acres money for tear down).*
- 4) *Tax map help on ERI – Through Frank’s efforts, now have zero unknown properties, down from 20 unknown from Ross’ initial list.*

K) Garbage Committee Report (Frank)

- 1) *Educate people.*

L) Business

- 1) **Ditch/Flood Gate inspections:**  
*Tom N. will work on planning for November or December start.*
- 2) **PV Park water quality/clarity.**  
*Nothing new – leaf fence is up.*

M) Action Items:

All:

*Website updates (see mail item)*

Thomas Andrea:

- 1) **Town history for ERI.**  
*Suggestions by Ed Engelbart and Jay Wancyzk included and now being reviewed by Environmental Commission members.*
- 2) **Compile a historic home section for the ERI.**  
*Will start next.*
- 3) **Follow up with Manager about municipal energy audit.**  
*Peter is planning to do all four township buildings, Town Hall, DPW, Senior House, and Animal Shelter. He is currently doing forms, getting Resolution ready and will be looking for Kilowatt hours used.*
- 4) **Check with Holly on our requested two years of energy bills.**  
*Provided some information, I am now reviewing.*
- 5) **Look into recycling at township parks.**  
*Peter says it is possible and will be contacting Denise about this issue. I will follow up with Denise.*
- 6) **Plan ditch/flood Gate inspections to start in November/December, after first frost.**  
*Still in progress, before next meeting I will try to do an inspection.*

7) Submit \$1000 Environmental Commission budget with expense categories to Township Manager.

*Done:*

<i>PUBLIC RELATIONS</i>	<i>- 400.00 – Mainly Ho-Down expenses</i>
<i>DUES, SUBSCRIPTIONS</i>	<i>- 330.00 – ANJEC membership with Workshop Plan</i>
<i>OFFICE SUPPLIES, FORMS</i>	<i>- 50.00</i>
<i>EDUCATION, CONFERENCES</i>	<i>- 220.00 – ANJEC Road Show at Library for EC Members and residents</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>1000.00</i>

Lisa Martinus:

Jim Iorio:

1) Continue looking into the possibility of Scouts pulling invasive species from Mountainside Park by Cedar Crest. Forwarded to Boy Scouts, need Boy Scout contact?

*Troop leader is interested, Jim will forward contact.*

Joseph Jorgensen:

1) Raise issue of a municipal energy audit at Council meeting, grant money available.

*Council seems to be on board.*

Jennifer Hardie:

Tom Newman:

1) Give library a description/synopsis for his presentations at the library. The library will need this so they can put him on the 2009 schedule.

Frank Spizzirri:

N) Correspondence ( M – Mail, E – Email )

1) M2008-089

a) From – Kevin Boyle, Township Manager

b) Date – 10/14/2008

c) Subject – New Jersey's Clean Energy Program

d) Action – FYI

e) Details – Pequannock's interest in participating in program.

2) M2008-090

- a) From – NJ DEP Bureau of Underground Storage Tanks
  - b) Date – 10/16/2008
  - c) Subject – No further action and covenant not to sue.
  - d) Action – FYI
  - e) Details – Pompton Plains Service, 19 Jackson Ave, unrestricted use for the areas of concern.
- 3) M2008-091
- a) From – Township of Pequannock Planning Board Land Development Review
  - b) Date – 10/17/2008
  - c) Subject – Site plan, bulk variance application and sign application for Fuel Max Inc., Block 902, lots 19,20, 652 Route 23 North.
  - d) Action – Comments sought
  - e) Details – Remove old gas station on corner of Route 23 and East Garden and put in a more modern gas station with a convenience store.
- 4) M2008-092
- a) From – NJ DEP Bur. Of Case Assignment and Initial Notice
  - b) Date – 10/23/2008
  - c) Subject – No further action and covenant not to sue.
  - d) Action – FYI
  - e) Details – Unrestricted use at 11 Harrison Road; Pompton Plains  
*This is a property that we are buying – Sabini property.*
- 5) M2008-093
- a) From – Peter Correale, Acting Township Manager
  - b) Date – 10/28/2008
  - c) Subject – Web Site
  - d) Action – Recommendations sought
  - e) Details – Review township website and provide recommendations for modifications and update within your department.  
*Tom A to send a note to Peter about the way we've got it set – and that we'd like to keep it that way. Everyone to think about items to put on the website.*
- 6) M2008-094
- a) From – Peter Correale, Acting Township Manager
  - b) Date – 10/31/2008
  - c) Subject – Budget Hearings
  - d) Action – FYI
  - e) Details – Dates and times for budget hearings with Manager
- 7) M2008-095
- a) From – Jay Vanderhoff, *no name but was told Jay is author*

- b) Date – 11/2008, *approximate, no date*
- c) Subject – Village Area Stream Clean-up
- d) Action – Request stream inspections by EC members in Village
- e) Details –
  - Nov – Dec, inspections, letters to residents
  - Jan – Feb, do clean-up, DPW, township groups. volunteers, SLAP. etc

O) General Calendar

- 1) No Date - Educate residents about pulling invasive plants from town wetlands.

*Jeff Keller – Tom N to call about inspection.*

- 2) No Date – ANJEC Road Show in town.

P) ERI Update Calendar and Requirements:

*Action Item for Tom N: letter to Steve J. Suburban Trends on photo contest: new or old photos they may have of town – wildlife.*

June 1 through July 31, 2008

EC begins to convert 1995 ERI into digital format and compile local open space and historic information

Consultant begins data/document collection

Aug. 1 through Sept. 30, 2008

EC delivers materials to consultant

Consultant gathers documents/data; begins to draft maps

Oct. 1 through Nov 15, 2008

Consultant delivers draft maps to EC for review and comment

Nov 16 through Jan. 31, 2009

Consultant meets with EC to review maps; drafts narrative sections

Feb. 1 through Feb. 28, 2009

Consultant delivers revised maps and draft narrative to EC

EC delivers comments to consultant

EC develops project update article for newspapers and website to publicize March EC meeting, at which EC will offer an overview of the draft ERI and discuss revisions for final draft; invites ANJEC

Mar. 1 through Mar. 31, 2009

Consultant attends EC meeting to discuss revisions for final draft

Apr. 1 through Apr. 30, 2009

Consultant delivers final draft to EC, meets to plan presentation to Planning Board  
EC distributes final draft ERI to Planning Board with recommendation to adopt;  
helps to publicize adoption hearing; invites Council, ANJEC

May 1 through May 30, 2009

EC and consultant present ERI at Planning Board adoption hearing  
Consultant delivers final paper, pdf and GIS versions of ERI to EC  
EC distributes ERI copies; posts ERI on website; develops final press release  
article on ERI

Township and EC submit final report, documentation on expenditure  
of funds and in-kind services, and copies of all grant products to  
ANJEC (1 paper, 1 CD) to request reimbursement

PROGRESS REPORTS DUE AT ANJEC: Nov. 15, 2008, Feb. 15, 2009; May 15, 2009. If, with consent of ANJEC, project runs past May 31, 2009, reports continue to be due quarterly, thereafter.

Q) Adjournment

### Mission Statement

We represent the public and its long-term interests as local environmental advocates. We work towards these goals by: advising the town council and the planning and zoning boards about a wide range of environmental issues that affect the town; advocating for open-space preservation; keeping residents informed of environmental issues; promoting environmental education; and working with neighboring commissions and other organizations to meet these goals.