

PEQUANNOCK TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday, January 14, 2009; 7:30 PM
Pequannock Town Hall
Second Floor Conference Room

Minutes

- A) Call to Order
- B) Roll Call
(Tom N., Chris, Jen, Tom A., Lisa, Joe, Frank)
- C) Public Comments
- D) Special Presentations
- E) Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes
12/10/2008 *Done*
- F) Budget Report (Tom A.) – *\$114.40 balance from last year returned to town coffers; now \$1,000 for 2009.*
- G) Chairperson's Report (Tom N.)
 - 1) *HHW day May 9th approved. Frank suggests asking Riverdale clerk about timing of Riverdale HHW day. Church, Parks and Recreation notified about date. Need to spread word, contact other Morris County towns and EC's.*
 - 2) *Stream/Ditch/Flood Gate Inspections: Have Ross make Appendix for Inspections (in ERI) more can be added even after ERI update project is complete. Tom N.'s inspection write ups shown to Joe, Joe really liked them.*
 - 3) *Goals (solicitation of EC member ideas):*
 - a) *Continue stream inspections (Tom N, Tom A, Chris, Lisa, etc.)*
 - b) *Complete ERI – note we will have public meeting for ERI*
 - c) *HHW pickup scheduled for May 9 (Tom N)*
 - d) *April talk at Library (Tom N)*
 - e) *Other presentations by/sponsored by EC:*
 - 1. *possibly sponsor ANJEC presentation/workshop*
 - 2. *possibly sponsor Ross Kushner or Jeff Keller (Tom N suggested a nature hike with Jeff Keller)*
 - 3. *possibly presentations on gardening, composting, community garden (Lisa/Jen)*
 - f) *Community Garden? (Lisa/Jen)*
 - g) *Cedar Crest: presentation, hike for those residents. Tom N has made contacts there previously, Chris L works there now which will help with coordination.*
 - h) *Town-wide Event in cooperation with North Blvd (Jen): North Blvd: has green slogan this year, Terry Horgan has developed an idea for a*

family walk/run/bike event, maybe for a fee, involve all schools, end at North Blvd school – have a party/picnic there. Timing: April 4th.

Additional ideas for this event: Invite vendors for tents (i.e. Sullivan Oak Farms?), maybe organic theme, PV and High School Enviro clubs, re-use. Could also have battery recycling bins, etc. Sneaker recycling dropoff, sport swap/cheap sale. Could advertise in the Trends with a contact number. This is still in the idea phase; MUST GET A SITE FIRST.

i) Get Recycling bins for town events, sporting events: bins were already purchased by town for use at ho down, other town events. This design would be bolted down in a fixed location. We could also use portable versions. Jen will see what Parks & Rec has/can do and if they are interested in portable units or what.

j) Ho Down – another this year is expected; theme unknown; may need a game.

k) Hike at Mountainside Park – fall time frame? (Tom N)

l) River cleanup – March time frame 3/28? (Rudy?/Jen)

H) Town Council Liaison Report (Joe)

1) Sustainable NJ (Walmart grants) – get points for a lot that we are doing anyway – Lisa will look into this (start counting points we have, look at what we could get)

2) Economic Development Grants (Obama) – including sewer project in Village and associated roads, woodland lake stabilization (pull out concrete that was dumped, improve berm between Woodland Lake and PV Park), expand sewer project up north of Village 23 on southbound side and put a spur over to A&P; sidewalk projects, Greenview Pk, Washington Park, water blending, etc.

3) Talk about Greenview Park – more expensive (\$570 K budgeted, but won't get an extra field but will get Pavillion, more parking, no drive thru where ditch is. We aren't putting it out to bid, engr cost is near \$1M.

4) Evening hours starting in March at Municipal Building for registrations, etc. for one night a month, they will be open to 8PM in exchange for early out on Fridays.

5) Report from Fred Hermann and Denise for PV Park recommendations: short term is to circulate water from woodland lake instead of chlorinate, long term is to strengthen the berm so the lake can be drawn down.

6) Bike Path – mtg at 3pm Friday a lot of obstacles have been worked out– Joe Wells from Open space is going to pursue crossing. County will take the lead on this.

7) Jamie Speciale was in and presented; he needs to answer Fred Hermann's questions by a consultant. Also Council is concerned about the temporary

road across it: Joe thinks we need to make sure we really cannot get a soccer field in there.

I) Planning Board Liaison Report (Joe)

1) Highlands development wants to put a building next to Panther Park. They were not prepared.

J) Open Space Liaison Report ()

1) Frank appointed chair again.

2) Closed on 4 new houses – 1 in Jan on Pequannock Ave (west side of Rt 23)

3) Contracted to take down 2 more – 1 already started.

4) One more house to close on North Pequannock Ave after that no more in the works. Will have a boat launch concrete pad.

5) Frank will notify Ross when the last one is final. After these, there are still quite a few: have 2 on North Pequannock Ave (other side of street), Harrison Rd have 2.

6) Crossings – Frank and Joe wells will look at size of streams that come in and what size crossing is required.

K) Garbage Committee Report (Frank)

1) Nothing to report yet.

L) Business

1) Ditch/Flood Gate inspections. Who unchains flood gates and checks operation?

Joe will check into who unchains flood gates when needed.

2) PV Park water quality/clarity.

The current plan is not to chlorinate PV Park water and circulate the water with Woodland Lake. If PV Park fails a water quality test, circulation will be stopped and PV Park's water will be chlorinated.

3) ERI proposed history section review, once approved send to Ross.

a) Tom will send Chris a copy for his review (6 pages).

4) ERI working copy review, emailed 1/10/2009 to EC members.

a) Picture on front – Tom A. says maybe something recognizable, Tom N. suggest a photo from the top of Turkey Mt.

5) List 2008 accomplishments and 2009 goals.

a) List of items to Council

b) How to look at information? List hardcopy.

6) ANJEC membership renewal.

a) Tom A will work on, no workshop plan.

M) Action Items:

All:

1) Any website updates?

2) Review, historic section for ERI, should we send it to Ross?

Tom Newman:

- 1) Letter or email to Steve Janowski of the Suburban Trends on photo contest: new or old photos they may have of town – wildlife. Email address: Janowski, Stephen [Janoski@northjersey.com]
- 2) Steam Inspection
Will continue as weather permits.
- 3) Status of May 9, 2009 MCMUA pickup day.
Booked! Covered in Chairman's report in minutes.
- 4) Complete quarterly ERI status report and submit to ANJEC.
Done
- 5) Send Frank a copy of his previous time estimates on the ERI.
Done
- 6) Spring presentation at library.
On track.
- 7) Call Jeff Keller about Cedar Crest inspection.
Not done
- 8) Determine owner of property near Cedar Crest, north of Mountainside Park, for Ross.

Martin Altis

Thomas Andrea:

- 1) Compile a historic home section for the ERI.
County may be able to provide great data, working to get that data.
- 2) Follow up with Manager about municipal energy audit.
In progress, they need the square footage of town buildings, being supplied. Councilman Kapotes initiated a January Solar Panel survey at town hall by County.
- 3) Look into recycling at township parks.
Scheduled to start but keep as an action item until the recycling starts and is working. TRANSFER TO JEN, check where in parks containers will be placed. Joe suggested multi chamber recycle bin.
- 4) Participate in a stream inspection.
Done and more coming. PROBABLY NOT UNTIL LATER. Delayed due to weather.
- 5) Website updates, remove from list when done:
Tom N's List for website:
 - a) Make "Activities" single spaced and re-order as appropriate.
 - b) Include "Maintain an updated ERI"
 - c) Replace "Pequannock Sentinel" with "the website and in mailings"

- d) Organize “Articles and Information” section to put septic care, lawn care; add section for copies of media articles; make section for photo gallery and have native/invasive plants, parks, wildlife, etc.; make a new section for “Projects” for Aquatic Park, Bike Trail, etc.; Add ERI section with an electronic copy of ERI, perhaps post a copy of the blue lines pdf map of the town – with copies of reports and/or links to our latest inspections.
 - e) Links Section: make single spaced and update. Add links for recycling company, other interesting links put in “Misc” section.
- Tom A’s list for website:
- a) Section for minutes of EC meetings.

Jennifer Hardie:

Lisa Martinus:

Christopher Lotito:

Joseph Jorgensen:

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

1) M2009-001

- a) From – ANJEC
- b) Date – 11/14/2008
- c) Subject – 2009 Planning Grants for NJ Municipalities
- d) Action – Fill out mid-January application if interested
- e) Details – 2009 matching grant applications coming in January

2) M2009-002

- a) From – Bertin Engineering
- b) Date – 12/18/2008
- c) Subject – Seeking wetlands boundaries at 590 Route 23 North
- d) Action – See also M2009-006, FYI
- e) Details – Looking for wetland boundaries from NJDEP

3) M2009-003

- a) From – State of NJ DEP Division of Brownfields Remediation and Reuse
- b) Date – 12/18/2008
- c) Subject – Unrestricted use of 5 Van Allen Place, Pequannock
- d) Action – FYI

e) Details – “No Further Action Letter and Covenant not to Sue”
Block 2901, Lot 5

4) M2009-004

a) From – Peter Correale, Acting Township Manager

b) Date – 12/16/2008

c) Subject – Christmas Luncheon invitation

d) Action – Respond if going

e) Details – On 12/24 between 12:00PM and 2:00PM

5) M2009-005

a) From – State of NJ DEP Green Acres Program

b) Date – 12/24/2008

c) Subject – Notice of Certification of Appraised Values

d) Action – FYI

e) Details – Speciale property, Block 902, Lot 12, 5.437+/- Acres,
value \$60,000

6) M2009-006

a) From – Township of Pequannock Board of Adjustment Land
Development Review

b) Date – 1/6/2009

c) Subject – Honda used car sale location at 590 Route 23 North,
see 2009-002

d) Action – Comments Sought, Board of Adjustment meeting is 1/15

e) Details – Replace old Morris Pet Supply with a used Honda car
sales location, variances sought.

3) General Calendar

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

b. No Date – ANJEC Road Show in town.

4) ERI Update Calendar and Requirements:

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.

5) 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.