

PEQUANNOCK TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday, June 8, 2011; 7:30 PM
Pequannock Town Hall
Second Floor Conference Room

Minutes

- A) Call to Order: 7:31
- B) Roll Call
 - 1) Members (Present/Absent):
 - a) Chair: Tom Newman Present
 - b) Secretary: Tom Andrea Present
 - c) Open Space Liaison: Rudy Steinthal Present
 - d) Planning Board Liaison: Philip Dickenson Present
 - e) Lisa Martinus Present
 - f) Jeff Mauriello Present
 - g) Nancy Towner Present
 - h) Alternate Members #1: Christopher Lotito Present
 - i) Alternate Members #2: Ron Baran Present
 - j) Council Liaison: Melissa Florance-Lynch Absent
- C) Public Comments (list those in attendance): *none*
- D) Special Presentations: *none*
- E) Approval of Meeting Minutes – May 11 2011: *T.Newman moves to accept, Rudy seconds.*
- F) Correspondence (M – Mail, E – Email)
 - 1) M2011-018
 - a) From – Pequannock River Coalition
 - b) Date – June 2011
 - c) Subject – Newsletter
 - d) Action – FYI
 - e) Details – Japanese Knotweed is an invasive and back at Appelt Park in Bloomingdale.
 - 2) M2011-019
 - a) From – Township of Pequannock
 - b) Date – 5/10/2011
 - c) Subject – Thank you letter to Target
 - d) Action – FYI
 - e) Details – A copy of the thank you letter sent to Target for their donation to the Mayor’s Annual River Clean-up.
 - 3) M2011-020

- a) From – Progressive Business Publications
- b) Date – 5/13/11
- c) Subject – Continuation Notice
- d) Action – FYI
- e) Details – If you want to continue receiving their publication the cost is \$299.
- f) Response: Not interested.

4) M2011-021

- a) From – Holly Lyon
- b) Date – 6/8/2011
- c) Subject – Crayon recycling program
- d) Action – FYI
- e) Details –
- f) Response: *Tom A will follow up with Holly about a crayon recycling program.*

G) Budget Report (Tom A.) \$470. *Action item for Rudy- follow up on the \$25 gift check from Hudson City Savings Bank.*

H) Chairperson's Report (Tom N.)

- 1) *Certificate of Participation for Jordan Roosma: confirmation of receipt received via email May 15, 2011.*
- 2) *Stream Monitoring – successfully completed on May 15, 2011. I have a copy of the visual monitoring and a “recreation” of results from Allison Petryk for the biological monitoring (showing “Fair” condition).*
- 3) *Rain Barrel Workshop – check with Green Team.*
- 4) *Possible Purchase of Rain Barrel for NBS and participation in workshop: confirmed with Dave Hollberg that we can apply the NBS donation to “leverage” purchase of something, just need Tom A. as liaison with NBS to confirm what would work.*
- 5) *“Water Cycle” tour: Bill Pereira can do a tour of the water facilities during the week, but not on a Saturday. I contacted Allison Beshada and a Saturday would work better. Perhaps the EC can get the tour some weekday morning and T.Newman can lead an “outside” (non-entry) tour as part of the main tour for the scouts. Some interest in one early in the day. Action Item: Tom N to see whether we can arrange this.*

I) Town Council Liaison Report (Melissa) *Tom A reported:*

- 1) *PV park – full time person to skim water and, keep things clean.*

J) Planning Board Liaison Report (Philip) -

- 1) *Workshop meeting was held*
- 2) *Proposal to subdivide house on Boulevard.*

K) Open Space Liaison Report (Rudy)

- 1) 5 properties not yet awarded, listed with Morris County. 66 Peq Ave closure in June is likely.
- 2) Parcel north of Alexander Jughandle – owners would not donate
- 3) FEMA grant concentrated on Floodway – 18/20 homeowners attended a meeting. Expect notice of grant by mid June – now starting to set aside funds for this so it looks good.
- 4) ANJEC grant was denied for Open Space Master Plan.

L) Business

- 1) Ditch/Flood Gate inspections -
 - a) Problems Christopher saw in ditch near Greenview Park. Tom N to send a word file template to Christopher and Tom A.
 - b) Rudy will do Beaver Brook with Jeff.
 - c) Need to schedule a meeting with Planning Board – first /last week of month – check Pequannock calendar. When ready, Tom N will schedule with Jill Hartman.
- 2) Annual River Clean Up (Rudy) –
 - a) Statistics from River Clean Up: (based on Rudy/s 4/14 email)
 1. Participants: ~101 confirmed plus +/- 10 people came late so a total of 110 people.
 2. Volumes:
 - a. Lyman's Park: 60 cubic yards based on 2 full Dumpsters, each 30 cubic yards
 - b. Aquatic Park: 20 cubic yards based on 1x 30 Cubic yard Dumpster, ~65% full
 3. Weights: not available.
 4. Alexander Ave: common items were: KFC, airplane liquor, general fast food items.
Note: Ron Baran says Dave Battaglia is now keeping the Parks clear – now working.
 - b) Additional suggestions for next year:
 1. Ask volunteers to include ages of participants when pre-registering.
 2. Make pre-assignments based on ages and number of volunteers. (to be issued at check-in)
 3. Assign Group leaders (commission members, open space members and/or town council members)
 4. Assign team leaders (teams to be 10 members + or -).
 5. A group leader may also be a team leader. Group leaders will be used in areas that require more than one team (ex Lyman's Park). In areas that require only one team, the group and team leader will be the same

6. At check-in have three check-in positions (A- H, I-P and Q-Z). Assignments will be given at check in based on the pre-assignment list.
 7. Maps and instructions will be issued to Group and Team leaders.
 8. Sampling (as was done the first year) or at least ad hoc observations of “bad actor” items that account for a significant portion of the total (i.e., report if “Joe’s Pizza” boxes/cups represent a noticeable portion of the trash, and then follow up with that establishment to see whether they have sufficient receptacles and whether anything can be done – perhaps contact them for volunteers for the cleanup!)
- c) Materials donated by businesses or purchased for cleanup
1. Shoprite Gift Card: \$57.33 left (Rudy purchased 10 boxes of trash bags)
 2. Leftover Water Bottles: 2 cases available (48 1-liter bottles).
 3. Target Gift Card:2010 Card has \$3.52 balance. 2011 Card has \$20 balance.
 4. Hudson Bank: \$25
 5. Also leftover from prior years, have gloves, bags, bug spray, Benadryl, about 100 paper bags.
- Note: Ron Baran says Dave Battaglia now has a crew assigned to keeping the parks clear of vegetative waste, ie. fallen branches.
- 3) PV Park water quality/clarity –
 - a) *Tom A: first day, noticed water clarity is down, debris (old leaves, etc) on bottom, but shoreline was clean.*
 - b) *Bill Pereira was in charge for first time this year of draining down the lake. He may not have cleaned the bottom?*
 - 4) Green Team has Booth at Street Fair
 - a) Recycling theme
 - 5) Ho-Down
 - a) Our booth is reserved with Parks and Recreation. We will again have a green alley.
 - b) Bags are purchased.
 - 6) Walkable Communities Workshop Program
 - a) *Tom A. posted comments online.*
 - 7) Grants
 - 8) Septic Tanks/Sewers
 - a) Educate town about maintenance and look at other towns ordinances on septic tank maintenance.
 - 9) Ordinances or Resolutions

- a) Municipal Well Head Protection Ordinance – *Sent an email to Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority requesting someone to describe the Ordinance before the Council and address their concerns.*
- b) *Mayor suggested a couple of dates: July 26, 2011 is tentative date, beginning of meeting soon after 7:30pm.*
- 10) Environmental Activity for Janice Greco's Girl Scouts, maybe a booth at the Ho-Down along Green Way. Ron's daughter is in this troop.
- 11) Rain Barrel Workshop on June 25 (by Allison Petryk)
- 12) Artificial Turf Investigation. *Jeff to submit his paper on artificial turf to EC members; EC to advise Phil of issues.*

M) Action Items:

All:

- 1) Stream inspections. See above.
- 2) Website: *Compile list of websites and internet links to include. Give Tom A more information. Provide/add issues/information about underground tanks on our website.*
 - a) Links: how to dispose of stuff, like CFLs
 - b) Recycle.org
 - c) Historicaerials.com
 - d) Green demolitions
 - e) Home Depot – mini dumpster – bag – put on our website!
- 3) Ho Down:
 - a) *Need themes: how to get rid of stuff – must have a game*
 - 1. *Septic*
 - 2. *Flood remediation education*
 - 3. *Recycling.*
 - 4. *Life of a Forest – Nancy's company put on a 7-minute video made by the UN.*
 - 5. *Energy Conservation topics*
 - 6. *“Do Not Dump – Drains to Stream” – trash topics.*
 - 7. *Electric Cars – impact*
 - b) *Raffle prize?*
 - 1. *Kill-O-Watt (Solar & More)*
 - 2. *Rain Barrel*
 - 3. *Can crusher, blue can for recyclables, items made of recyclables.*

Tom Newman:

- 1) Review stream-inspection reports completed since last submittal. When complete, submit the new reports to Council. Ongoing – working toward summer completion/presentation to Planning Board. Schedule with Jill Hartman.
- 2) Make presentation to Council on our year-end summary of our accomplishments in 2010 and 2011 goals. May be regular or workshop, coordinate if a presentation is planned so that it can be put on agenda.
- 3) Thank you letter to North Boulevard for their donation to the Environmental Commission.
- 4) *Send Rudy a copy of the Blue-Line Map*
- 5) *Send a copy of an example Blue-Line inspection as an MS Word file to Christopher and Tom A.*
- 6) *Arrange a summer tour of Pequannock's water-supply facilities with Bill Perira for the Environmental Commission – will have to be some morning.*

Melissa Florance-Lynch:

Thomas Andrea:

- 1) Download and try editing Nature Walk with Jeff Keller video and continue for all videos when received from T. Newman.
- 2) Do stream report for Glens area walked with Tom Newman:
http://www.everytrail.com/view_trip.php?trip_id=470637 .
- 3) *Contact NBS RE whether a rain barrel or other gift from the EC would be acceptable.*

Lisa Martinus:

- 1) Sustainable NJ. –*Resolutions have been drafted, due to come up June 14, 7:30.*
- 2) *Street Fair (Green Team) – points are coming.*

Rudy Steinthal:

- 1) Continue Stream Inspections.
- 2) *Blue line listing for checklist.*
- 3) *Follow up on the \$25 gift check from Hudson City Savings Bank*

Philip Dickinson:

1. RE Right of Ways in respect to township trees: Talked to Bill Pereira , each street laid out different. He will leave a copy of this with Linda for Phil –who will review.

Jeff Mauriello:

1. Get copy of artificial turf paper for EC members.
2. Accompany Rudy on stream investigation

Nancy Towner:

1. *Look back on artificial turf info and compile info together with Jeff M. for EC to advise PB.*
2. *Help put together a presentation of EC for Council*

Ron Baran:

Keep track of municipal energy audit; Donnely (contractor)

Christopher Lotito:

1. *Recycling Box has been placed in vestibule downstairs for the Best Buy.*
2. *Torrent – photo documentation of the last flood.*

N) General Calendar

June 12, 2011 – Street Fair (Green Team will have booth)

June 25, 2011 – Rain Barrel Workshop with Allison Petryk

July 26, 2011 Council Meeting – presentation on Wellhead Protection

September 17, 2011 – Ho-Down, setup 8AM start 12PM end 7PM

Rain date next day September 18, 2011

O) Adjournment: 9:30pm

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.