

PEQUANNOCK TOWNSHIP  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday, November 9, 2011; 7:30 PM  
Pequannock Town Hall  
Second Floor Conference Room

Minutes

- A) Call to Order 7:34pm
- 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 *absent*
    - e) Lisa Martinus *present*
    - f) Jeff Mauriello *absent*
    - g) Nancy Towner *resigned*
    - h) Alternate Members #1: Christopher Lotito *present until 9:20pm*
    - i) Alternate Members #2: Ron Baran *absent*
    - j) Council Liaison: Melissa Florance-Lynch *present*
- C) Public Comments (list those in attendance)
  - 1) *Louise Marchesi (Economic, Flood)*
  - 2) *Evelyn Justesen (Prior Mayor, Council)*
- D) Special Presentations
- E) Approval of Meeting Minutes – October 12, 2011 – Lisa motions, Tom N seconds. [Tom A will post meeting minutes to the EC website.]
- F) Correspondence ( M – Mail, E – Email)
  - 1) M2011-025 (tabled from 9/2012)
    - a) From – New Jersey Highlands Coalition
    - b) Date – August 9, 2011
    - c) Subject – Membership in NJ Highlands Coalition
    - d) Action – Consider Membership, *Someone was assigned to look into this issue.*
    - e) Details – Costs – Voting Member \$30 and Non-Voting Member \$20.
    - f) EC votes to become a voting member at a cost of \$30. Unanimous.
  - 2) M2011-031
    - a) From – Dave Hollberg, Township Manager
    - b) Date – 10/20/2011
    - c) Subject – 2012 Official Township Holidays

- d) Action – FYI
- e) Details – Memo to Department Heads
- f) *No action*

3) M2011-032

- a) From – Dave Hollberg, Township Manager
- b) Date – 10/24/2011
- c) Subject – Budget Hearings
- d) Action – Environmental Commission 11/21/2011 at 11AM
- e) Details – Request for funding in 2012
- f) *Tom A will confirm whether or not we need to delineate our 2011 expenditures.*

4) M2011-033

- a) From – Township Ranger
- b) Date – 10/2011
- c) Subject – Ranger Reports
- d) Action – FYI
- e) Details – Township Ranger activities
- f) *Noted that Ranger reported damage to Mountainside Park with a number of trees down. Rudy commented that there are so many trees down the trails are impassable. NY/NJ trails commission may be overwhelmed.*

G) Budget Report (Tom A.) \$470 (approximately \$300 left if Rudy's estimate of \$140 for raffle prize from Ho Down.)

H) Chairperson's Report (Tom N.)

- 1) *Nancy Towner resigned this week. This is a Mayor-appointed position. Melissa says that the Chair should send a note to Jay Delaney about this to acknowledge for presentation to Council.*
- 2) *Suburban Trends article on Environmental Commission table at Ho Down – published October 30, 2011. This posting represented only part of what I submitted – the raffle photos and results were edited out, no reason provided.*
- 3) *Items that we would do well to spend the money on. Please think of beneficial things we could purchase.*

I) Town Council Liaison Report (Melissa)

- 1) *Debris cleanup still occurring. Many calls still coming in.*
- 2) *Costs due to Irene: \$1.2M expenses; bulk waste \$978K. Need to recoup 25% of the total cost, which comes out to about \$300K. Will need to recoup the costs by a surcharge. With 4,000 households, this comes out to \$75 per household. This on top of the \$20 increase.*
- 3) *Dredging Grant: (just in) township is getting grant money from the State on dredging/de-snagging.*

- J) Planning Board Liaison Report (Philip absent)
- 1) Christopher: Started work on 7-11.
  - 2) Christopher/Melissa: unclear whether A&P will come back in.
  - 3) Melissa: Hearle Village is moving forward.
  - 4) Melissa: Next to Valero at end of Alexander Ave – this has not gotten through the Board of Adjustment.
- K) Open Space Liaison Report (Rudy)
- 1) *Next Monday is the next Open Space meeting.*
  - 2) *\$980,000 approved for buyouts in flood areas. Total now is 30 houses included 22 FEMA houses, remainder are paid by County.*
- L) Green Team Report (Lisa)
- 1) *Start program for local businesses to become green. List of things the businesses do, including recycling, specific things that they are doing, can earn a certificate if they can show certain things. Once a program is in place, Sustainable NJ would give points to the Green Team.*
  - 2) *Sustainable NJ points for ERI.*
  - 3) *Green Team got the \$1,000 grant officially from Sustainable NJ. Will be awarded at the League of Municipalities meeting.*
  - 4) *Library presentation by Green Sky for recycling program, Thursday November 10, 7pm.*
  - 5) *Library presentation by Solar & More, November 17, 7pm.*
- M) Business
- 1) Ditch/Flood Gate inspections -
    - a) *Resume inspections, start with waterbodies not yet completed (West Ditch/Beaver Brook Road).*
    - b) *Incorporate inspections with cleanup on November 19.*
  - 2) Mayor's River Clean Up: 11/19/2011 between 9am and 1pm (Rudy) –
    - a) *Have a 30 cubic yard dumpster provided by the township.*
    - b) *Waiting for availability of Fire House #2. Backup is DPW. Want a warm place where folks can recover.*
    - c) *Utilize better practices learned from last cleanup.*
    - d) *Use leftover items (gloves, etc.), can also use leftover money on Shoprite, Target, bank gift cards. Rudy will purchase goodies to bring, will look for source of coffee, etc.*
    - e) *Note: Council received a letter from residents around Riverside Park complaining about the state of the fence and debris.*
    - f) *Christopher reported that the ditch west of Pequannock Ave and along Roosevelt, north end of Greenwood is full of debris. This is public land and would be part of the Township's responsibility.*

g) *Note: cub scouts are being assigned by Renee Helmer independently to Aquatic Park. Rudy will contact her to coordinate. Perhaps Renee can divert scouts to Riverside Park.*

3) PV Park water quality/clarity –

a) *New PV Park Committee is to make recommendations by end of the year relative to improvements that should be made to fundraising, features of the park, monitoring of things that should be done before it gets too late.*

b) *Water level needs to be lowered once Woodland Lake is lowered.*

4) Walkable Communities Workshop Program

a) A meeting is being sought by the Mayor with interested parties to discuss implementation of ideas in the report. Interested parties are the Mayor, Dave Hollberg, Joe Wells, DPW, Police and Tom Andrea. *Tom Andrea brought it up at last night's Council meeting. Hopefully this will begin moving forward again.*

5) Grants

6) Septic Tanks/Sewers

a) Educate town about maintenance and look at other towns ordinances on septic tank maintenance. Peter C says no need for an ordinance.

b) Model Ordinances, Tom A emailed an ANJEC one.

c) Waiting for Peter Correale to address the EC. Tom N. will invite Peter Correale to address the EC.

7) Ordinances or Resolutions

8) Household Hazardous Waste Pick-up : Tom N will reach out to MCMUA for Spring HHW Pickup.

9) File cabinet in copy room cleanup, may be moved.

N) Action Items:

All:

1) Stream inspections.

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) Green demolitions

b) Home Depot – mini dumpster – bag – put on our website!

Tom Newman:

1) Review stream-inspection reports completed since last submittal. When complete, submit the new reports to Council. Ongoing Schedule a meeting with Planning Board on ERI update – first /last week of month –

check Pequannock calendar. Speak to Jill Hartman to schedule. Note the update would consist of updated waterbody inspection reports.

- 2) Scan and email the copy of the Right of Way / paved road dimensions for each street that Phil distributed at the July meeting.
- 3) Workshop meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday (Dec 13); Regular 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday (Dec 27). Send an email to Jay Delaney for Special Presentation to the Council on EC accomplishments in 2011. Target 15 minutes, same night as the Green Team.

Melissa Florance-Lynch:

- 1) Facebook – *Pequannock* – *there is a lot of dialog, can be a useful outlet for PEC.*

Thomas Andrea:

- 1) Do stream report for Glens area walked with Tom Newman:  
[http://www.everytrail.com/view\\_trip.php?trip\\_id=470637](http://www.everytrail.com/view_trip.php?trip_id=470637) .
- 2) Place the Mountainside Hike videos on YouTube for download via link on PEC website.
- 3) Add (<http://www.nynjtc.org/product/jersey-highlands-central-north-region-trail-map>) to our website.

Lisa Martinus:

- 1)

Rudy Steinthal:

- 1) Continue Stream Inspections.
- 2) Follow up on the \$25 gift check from Hudson City Savings Bank. Should have been credited to our account – Rudy will check.
- 3) Do Beaver Brook stream inspection with Jeff.
- 4) Blue line listing for checklist

Philip Dickinson:

Jeff Mauriello:

- 1) Accompany Rudy on stream investigation

Ron Baran:

- 1) Keep track of municipal energy audit; Donnely (contractor).

O) General Calendar

November 19, 2011 between 9am and 1pm: Mayor's Lyman Park Cleanup  
March 31, 2012, between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m: Mayor's River Cleanup.

P) Adjournment 9:39pm

### 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.