

PEQUANNOCK TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, March 13, 2013; 7:30 PM
Pequannock Town Hall
Second Floor Conference Room

- A) Call to Order 7:34
- B) Roll Call
 - 1) Members (Present/Absent):
 - a) Chair: Tom Newman *present*
 - b) Secretary: Tom Andrea *present*
 - c) Open Space Liaison: Rudy Steintal *present*
 - d) Planning Board Liaison: Philip Dickenson *present*
 - e) Jeff Mauriello *present*
 - f) Ron Baran *present*
 - g) Tom Murphy *absent*
 - h) Alternate #1: Ralph DiBuono *present*
 - i) Council Liaison: Melissa Florance-Lynch *absent*
- C) Public Comments (list those in attendance)
- D) Special Presentations
- E) Approval of Meeting Minutes – 2/13/2013 *Rudy moves to approve, Tom N seconds.*
- F) Correspondence (M – Mail, E – Email)
 - 1) M2013-005
 - a) From – Ranger Paul
 - b) Date – 2/2013
 - c) Subject – Ranger Report
 - d) Action – FYI
 - e) Details – Some of our Ranger’s activities in 2/2013
- G) Budget Report (Tom A.)
Balance - \$650
- H) Chairperson’s Report (Tom N.)
 - 1) ANJEC
 - a) (2/19) ANJEC requested our roster; Tom N sent on 2/22
 - b) Workshop “Fundamentals of Effective ECs”
 - 1. March 2 (Clifton): attendees?
 - 2. March 23 (Hillsborough) – Tom M. is signed up(?)
 - c) (2/23) \$1,500 grants: available for open space, “raising profile of EC” through publicity and public participation or collaboration with local groups.” Tom N drafted a proposal and spoke to Frank Spizzirri of OS

about this and decided that the requirement of 80 hours was too much to justify chasing the grant.

d) (3/8) Volunteers Available from Aveda Corporation (Paramus, other locations) through ANJCEC – forwarded to Rudy

2) Use of Open Space Money at Gerace: status?

a) Rudy: Council decided to use the OS money, verbal interpretation from the township lawyer is that it is legal to apply the money in this way. At this time the Council is leaning toward using a total of \$200,000 to enlarge the baseball fields. This would be a reversal of the lawyer's prior ruling.

3) Bacteria source tracking for PV Park:

Closed a couple times in 2012 – 4th of July, another hot weekend. To determine the source of the bacteria (human vs bird vs dog, etc.). Prices are as follows:

4 or more tests per sample - \$175 per test

3 tests per sample - \$225 per test

2 tests per sample - \$275 per test

1 test per sample - \$375 per test

Measure quantity - additional \$75 per test A list of available tests can be found here sourcemolecular.com/tests

4) (3/1) Status of \$500 “Litter Free Grant” being tracked by Tom A? Morris County sent out newsletter that advertised a grant to school groups. If you do a cleanup you can qualify for this for purchase of waste/recycling containers on school property. Janice Greco of the Home-School Association will be pursuing this.

5) (3/6) Communicated with a member of the Morristown EC regarding bags, recycled pencils, other “prizes” that we give away.

6) Newsletter submission: “NJ’s Fertilizer Law”

7) Arlington Scrap – pays for metals; also ACs, electronics (not TVs)

8) Tom N contacted County Planner’s office about FEMA map updates – there is no expected date for the update.

I) Town Council Liaison Report (Melissa)

1) Green Team update: will be renewed

2) No Dam removal.

J) Planning Board Liaison Report (Philip)

1) PB meeting had a lot of public comments regarding Chilton:

a) Drainage of new buildings vs new regulations

b) impact of development on flooding

c) landscaping

d) perk tests show drainage is “adequate”

2) Petrarcha issue tabled until April

K) Open Space Liaison Report (Rudy)

1) Phase 5: tank removal still ongoing on 1 property

2) 3 contracts pending, 2 closed –

- 3) *FEMA 1, Some properties closing*
- 4) *FEMA 2, Appraisals being done*
- 5) *Green Acres reimbursement waiting on information from township.*
- 6) *Discussion about OS money being used for Gerace per above*
- 7) *ROSI being worked on, two properties need to be removed.*

L) **Business**

- 1) *Ditch/Flood Gate inspections - Jeff M gave Tom N the photos from the inspections.*
- 2) **Mayor's River Clean Up – April 6, 2013 9am-1pm: (Rudy) –**
 - a) *Where to clean this year? Rudy distributed a map with proposed areas.*
 - b) *Rudy needs eyes to see state of areas just prior to cleanup*
 - c) *Need ATVs or some other way to transport heavier materials.*
 - d) *Afterwards, send acknowledgement letters to High School Students who help, great community service.*
 - e) *Foodtown \$25 cert, Golden China Kitchen – drinks; Renewable Energy – bags and gloves; Shoprite \$300; Wal-Mart \$25 (Rudy bought bug spray); Rudy will reach out to bagel shops too.*
 - f) *Rudy trying to decide where to put Dumpsters and will coordinate with Pete; also will coordinate with Police about Alexander Ave closure*
 - g) *Tom A will reach out to Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts for volunteers*
- 3) **PV Park water quality/clarity –**
 - a) *Aeration will not be added to PV Park, there were no applicable references from a swimming lake.*
- 4) **Street Fair - Sunday, June 9 from**
<http://www.jcpromotions.info/pages/schedule.html> website
Tom A will reach out to Watershed Ambassador; recycle what was done at the Ho Down. Recycled Pencils and bags.
- 5) **Ho-Down - September 21, 2013 (Saturday) 11am-5pm, Rain Date - September 22**
 - a) *Ideas for raffle items: composter, binoculars, environmentally conscious cleaning supplies by Atra,*
- 6) **Walkable Communities Workshop Program**
 - a) *Once our new engineer and Council have had a chance to review the plans we can go over the plans.*
- 7) **Grants**
- 8) **Ordinances or Resolutions**
- 9) **Household Hazardous Waste Pick-up - scheduled for October 19, 2013**
- 10) **Our file cabinet was moved to the mailroom, three large boxes still in the hallway, under the bench, need to be moved**
- 11) **Green Team:**
 - a) **Needs members**

M) Action Items:

All:

- 1) Stream inspections – will need public notice
- 1) Website: Compile list of websites and internet links to include.
- 2) Town Newsletter: Tom Newman submitted an ANJEC article on New Jersey's Fertilizer Law to place in the newsletter.
- 3) Volunteer for the Green Team? Lisa, Elaine, Ralph, Alberta, one other person.
- 4) Ideas for 2013
 - a) Website update, including links to a variety of topics
 - b) Presentation – at library and/or at Cedar Crest?
 - c) Hike with Jeff Keller - \$400
- 5) Add Water Blending to ERI.

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. Phil suggests July, Tom N to reach out to Linda Z for scheduling in July.
- 2) Ask engineer if township has the information on the storm water infrastructure as required by the MS4 permits, including Catch Basins, culverts, or other storm water infrastructure around town – current equipment (cameras, for example) automatically get GIS coordinates and would be suitable for GIS. The EC will be happy to assist in the process.
- 3) Conduct a “Day in the Life of a Water Droplet in Pequannock” for the scouts.
- 4) Check with Virginia Michelin at Morris County Planning Dept. to see if she knows when we can expect updates to FEMA maps. Done – no date
- 5) Make a list of the reports that have been done.

Melissa Florance-Lynch:

- 1) Proposal to have Flood Committee, Green Team, Open Space report through the Environmental Commission. That's probably not going to happen.
- 2) Email Feeder Dam Study to EC members. done

Thomas Andrea:

1) Do stream report for Glens area walked with Tom Newman:
http://www.everytrail.com/view_trip.php?trip_id=470637 .

Rudy Steinthal:

- 1) Blue line listing for checklist (name streams), using files from Tom N.
- 2) Send reminders for Spring Cleanup.

Philip Dickinson:

Jeff Mauriello:

- 1) Go on blue-line inspection. done

Ron Baran:

Tom Murphy:

- 1) Review Tom N's ideas RE website changes.

N) General Calendar

April 6, 2013, Mayor's Annual River Cleanup

June 9, 2013, Pequannock Street Fair

September 21, 2013 (Saturday) 11am-5pm, Rain Date - September 22

(Week after New Jersey Firemen's Convention September 13 & 14, 2013)

October 19, 2013, MCMUA Household Hazardous Waste Pick-up Day

O) Adjournment 9:32

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.