

PEQUANNOCK TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 8, 2013; 7:37 PM
Pequannock Town Hall
Second Floor Conference Room

- A) Call to Order 7:37pm
- B) Roll Call
 - 1) Members (Present/Absent):
 - a) Chair: Tom Newman *present*
 - b) Secretary: Tom Andrea *late arrival*
 - c) Open Space Liaison: Rudy Steinthal *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 *present*
- C) Public Comments (list those in attendance)
- D) Special Presentations
- E) Approval of Meeting Minutes – 4/10/2013 *Rudy gave edits, then moved to accept, seconded by Phil*
- F) Correspondence (M – Mail, E – Email)
 - 1) M2013-009
 - a) From – ANJEC
 - b) Date –
 - c) Subject – ERI and other information
 - d) Action – FYI
 - e) Details –
 - 2) E2013-002
 - a) From – Christopher Lotito clotito@alumni.drew.edu
 - b) To: Sent to Tom N and Tom A's email address not ptec
 - c) Date – 4/30/2013
 - d) Subject – Problems caused by paving projects
 - e) Action – For discussion
 - f) Details (summarized by Tom N) –
 - 1. Leaks of vehicle fluids and other construction chemicals onto the ground. *This is a general problem, not restricted to contractors. The existing inspectors program, citizen calls, etc. are the way to address this.*

2. "Paving materials being worked into those areas" refers to tars and lumps of asphalt being scattered off-road and worked into the soils there. Discussion: *trucks are sprayed with diesel as a "non-stick" treatment prior to work; at end of the day, any leftover patchwork is diesel-rich and so this is a concern if it is dumped near a stream. Melissa confirmed that there is paving work coming up now. Melissa will bring this up at a Council meeting and will email Dave about this. EC recommended having a statement that would be provided to in-town DPW as well as other contractors, this would provide a "best practice" for them.*
3. "Soil compression" refers to heavy machinery operating off-road, on vacant land, etc. and compacting the soil underneath. *Not an issue*

G) Budget Report (Tom A.)

Balance - \$650

H) Chairperson's Report (Tom N.)

1) Website list source from HDR Green Team.

I) Town Council Liaison Report (Melissa)

1) Blending facility done, will start blending this month as a startup, will go into full swing in summer

2) Village Sewers moving forward, involve another access to Rt. 23, there will be a new crossing to other side

J) Planning Board Liaison Report (Philip)

1) Meeting last Monday, two topics

a) Petrarcha subdivision (Mountain Ave) voted down

b) Carbone property on Robert Place (near Mary Place) exceeded their impervious area, and asked for more.

2) Next Meeting topics:

a) Chilton Hospital

b) Rezoning of Schaeffer Property -

K) Open Space Liaison Report (Rudy)

1) River walk – 3 areas to be used

a) Harrison to dock – start of trail

b) North Pequannock Ave

c) Riverside Drive, river side

L) Business

1) Ditch/Flood Gate inspections -

2) Mayor's River Clean Up – April 5, 2014: (Rudy) –

3) PV Park water quality/clarity – town is now aware of the DNA testing. All tests are on the Health Department website.

4) Street Fair - Sunday, June 9 from

<http://www.jcpromotions.info/pages/schedule.html> website

- a) Tom A to reach out to Watershed Ambassadors, done but too late for Street Fair
- b) Melissa to make sure we have a booth.
- c) Tom A, Ralph, Ron Baran, Rudy are available for this.
- d) Green Team planning to be there, focus will be on Education and being into schools (idling ordinance).
- e) Tom N: suggested Recycling How To Message as we still see TVs, ACs, etc on curb! If Green Team does Curbside (Green Sky) Recycling, then EC could do the rest of it: Have TV, AC, Batteries, Paint, chemicals (Oct 19th), secure papers (shred day), etc. *Tom N to get the PENCILS and materials from the Oscar the Grouch Ho Down. Calendar of Upcoming Events: Ho Down, Haz Waste Recycling Day, Shred Day, Hikes (if available at the time), next year's cleanup day, etc.

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

6) Walkable Communities Workshop Program

- a) Once our new engineer (John Golden, as of May 6) and Council have had a chance to review the plans we can go over the plans.

7) Grants

- a) Jeff submitted ANJEC Stewardship Grant – (80 hours in kind from EC and Township volunteered)

8) Ordinances or Resolutions

- a) Tom A will be working on one related to the Threatened and Endangered Species Workshop he took. “Great workshop, had an hour classroom portion, then went to field locations to look at species in Great Swamp, bird calls, etc.” There was an ordinance to protect habitat. For example, to document vernal pools they will be protected.

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 (now have 5 members)

12) ANJEC Training

- a) Tom A. attended Threatened and Endangered Species Workshop. Notes: Great full day training. Started at ANJEC location and then went several field locations. We should be working on documenting sightings of wildlife in town. If we can find an endangered species living in Pequannock it might protect an area from development. A prime example of an area that could be examined would be between

Woodland Lake and Route 23. The time to look is now, not when a developer is putting in plans to build something in that area. We should look into getting a Natural Heritage Database search for Pequannock, cost maybe \$70. This is the most up to date rare species information.

<http://www.nj.gov/dep/parksandforests/natural/heritage/datareq.html>

If a rare species is found report it:

<http://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/ensp/pdf/rptform.pdf>

We should also be looking for any Vernal Pools in town, maybe \ By Lyman Park? This is a body of water, could be like a swamp or marsh that has water in the spring and dry in the summer.

They cannot be attached to a stream. Very important and vanishing breeding grounds.

See scanned pdf of workshop handout for more details.

13) **Environmental Clubs in schools, Tom A. Advisor.** *They all meeting once per month. Each working on a project they selected to be completed by June. The last meeting will be going over the project and talking about what we could be doing in the following school year.*

a) North Boulevard School

1. Project: Collect plastic bottle caps. Each classroom is collecting plastic bottle caps to show that "Small thing can make a big difference". Would the Environmental Commission like to supply the pizza for the class that collects the most bottle caps? Rudy will check into this at Shoprite to see if they have Pizza, cupcakes, "Thank You" balloons, etc.

2. Project: Build birdhouses. Tom A. built kits the Environmental Club members put together. Only 16 screws needed to be installed to complete the bird house, competed in one hour.

b) Hillview School

1. Project: Create artwork using recycled items. In progress, should be completed by the end of May.

c) SJ Gerace School

1. Project: Family Fun Night. Turn the TV's off and save electricity by coming to school to play games with schoolmates. Scheduled for May 31st from 7pm to 8:30pm at Gerace's All-Purpose Room.

M) Action Items:

All:

1) Stream inspections.

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. *done*

- 3) Volunteer for the Green Team? *Ralph is volunteering.*
- 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 – Tom N to contact Jeff about availability
- 5) Add Water Blending to ERI.

Tom Newman:

- 1) Stream-inspection reports:
 - a. Tom N to compile list of those reports already completed.
 - b. Tom N to complete reports done since last submittal to Planning Board. 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) Compile Websites for our EC website.

Melissa Florance-Lynch:

- 1) *Talk to Council Dave about paving issue recommendation by EC for designated area for paving leftover asphalt temporary storage*
- 2) *Contact Watershed Ambassador*
- 3) *Call Green Sky about shred day*
- 4) *Sign up EC for Street Fair*
- 5) *Sewer extension info about 23 crossover to east side*

Thomas Andrea:

- 1) Do stream report for Glens area walked with Tom Newman:
http://www.everytrail.com/view_trip.php?trip_id=470637 .
- 2) Status of \$500 “Litter Free Grant” application from Morris County. Reached out to Janice Greco about working on this with Lacrosse Team. *Did not work out.*

3) Reach out to Watershed Ambassador. *Not yet*

Rudy Steinthal:

1) Blue line listing for checklist (name streams), using files from Tom N.

Philip Dickinson:

Jeff Mauriello:

Ron Baran:

Tom Murphy:

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

N) General Calendar

June 9, 2013, Pequannock Street Fair

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

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

O) Adjournment *9:24 motion to adjourn*

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.