

PEQUANNOCK TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, October 9, 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 Steinthal *present*

d) Planning Board Liaison: Philip Dickenson *present*

e) Jeff Mauriello *present*

f) Ron Baran *present*

g) Tom Murphy *present*

h) Alternate #1: Ralph DiBuono *absent*

i) Council Liaison: Melissa Florance-Lynch *present*

C) Public Comments (list those in attendance)

1) *Matt Columbo*

D) Special Presentations

E) Approval of Meeting Minutes – 9/11/2013 *motion by Rudy 2nd by Jeff*

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

1) M2013-019

a) From – David Hollberg, Township Manager

b) Date – 9/17/2013

c) Subject – 2014 Budget Preparation

d) Action – Request 2014 budget

e) Details – Request has been \$1000

f) *Tom A will submit similar response as in past.*

2) M2013-020

a) From – The Pathways of History

b) Date – Tours 10/12 & 10/13

c) Subject – Museum Tour Weekend

d) Action – FYI

e) Details – www.PathwaysofHistoryNJ.com Website has great maps and details of program.

3) M2013-021

a) From – The Pequannock River Coalition

b) Date – 10/2013

c) Subject – Newsletter

- d) Action – FYI
- e) Details – “Problems Continue in Pompton Lakes” an article that highlights some bad dredging activities in Pompton Lakes, could be a good guide for what will not happen in Pequannock. Plus more articles.
- G) Budget Report (Tom A.)
 - Balance - \$650 (does not count the composter \$120 so \$530)*
- H) Chairperson’s Report (Tom N.)
 - 1) *Have coordinated with Jeff Keller. We discussed the “Night Sounds” idea and decided that it would work much better in the Spring or Summer – hold for another year. We could as an alternative do a “pre-recorded” presentation but this would require a lot of work. Another alternative is for Jeff to present at night, possible topics are*
 - a) *Plantings for homeowners that are ecologically sound, wildlife friendly, climate appropriate, and aesthetically pleasing*
 - b) *The “think global, act local” paradigm: how what you do at home affects your property, neighborhood, and greater community.*
 - c) *Schedule: try for Tues Nov 19 or Thu Nov 21; Sr.House or Library*
- I) Town Council Liaison Report (Melissa)
 - 1) *Village Area sewers moving forward but may require re-bid.*
 - 2) *Preparing recommendations for Spring Projects consulting Walkable Communities documents, working with County*
 - 3) *Sewer line to extend down NPTurnpike to Sunset, waiting to pave until that goes in. Schedule for spring of 2014, roughly.*
- J) Planning Board Liaison Report (Philip)
- K) Open Space Liaison Report (Rudy)
- L) Business
 - 1) *Ditch/Flood Gate inspections - resume when leaves drop*
 - 2) *Mayor’s River Clean Up (Rudy) –*
 - a) *2014 River cleanup: Saturday, April 5th 2014 Notice was sent out*
 - b) *P&R is sponsoring a Scout cleanup of Parks in town.*
 - 3) *PV Park water quality/clarity – Tom N suggests that the town take the opportunity to contact the DNA lab and establish a protocol. We also discussed the catch basin in the parking lot behind Patriot. Melissa to look if there is a drainage permit for the building or similar requirement to maintain the catch basin(s) which have been observed to have issues such as oil, old filters, etc.*
 - 4) *Street Fair -*
 - 5) *Ho-Down - September 21, 2013 (Saturday) 11am-5pm*
 - a) *Ralph: delivered the composter to the winner, Gregory Flaime of Pomona Ave in Pompton Plains.*

- b) *Photo opportunity: not Saturday, sometime after work*
- c) *Had 53 people sign up for raffle*
- d) *Observation from Rudy and Ralph: better position at the Pavilion would be on the “short” side facing the restrooms.*
- e) *Tom N: next year try to give something out right there (have multiple prizes that can be given out during the Hoe Down)*
- f) *Ron: says vendors need more time to be able to show up for the Hoe Down. (This year only had a week or so notice.)*

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. Discussions between County and our Town Engineer are continuing.

7) Grants

8) Ordinances or Resolutions

- a) Tom A will be working on one related to the Threatened and Endangered Species Workshop he took. Emailed a sample ordinance we can discuss.

9) Household Hazardous Waste Pick-up - scheduled for October 19, 2013

- a) Tom A said he can take photos for me
- b) The flier posted on the Peq website is not the best – *Melissa is going to re-send to Diane Rizzo the one that Tom N had made – that one highlights Pequannock’s Date and a better list of what is and is not acceptable.*

10) Green Team:

- a) *No idling as a public-outreach initiative through HSA*
- b) *Field survey to see how much idling is happening prior to initiative. Jeff is interested in doing “undercover” field survey of how many cars are idling.*
- c) *Maybe give out cards/fliers educational value and personal touch. Matt says personal touch is better.*

11) ANJEC Training

- a) *Next: Green Infrastructure in Bernardsville*

12) Bio Blitz, could we do one at Woodland Lake??? Example:

<http://web.uconn.edu/mnh/bioblitz/> - coordinate with Watershed Ambassador – *Ron to check for contact from prior year*

13) Environmental Clubs in schools, Tom A. Advisor

- a) Clubs have started. Hillview started today and are interested in getting a recycling center in town. North Boulevard already started. Gerace to start in a week followed by PV Middle School the following week.

M) Action Items for next meeting:

All:

- 1) Website: Compile list of websites and internet links to include.
- 2) Town Newsletter: contribute articles
- 3) ERI: look into upcoming updates; should add water blending, stream-inspection reports, updated open space maps, etc.

Tom Newman:

- 1) Plan to set up at Hoe Down. Done
- 2) Contact Jeff Keller about date for a fall. Done but need to continue following up.
- 3) Review stream-inspection reports completed since last submittal. When complete, submit the new reports to Council. Ongoing
- 4) Contact Joe Golden (Township Engineer) to
 - a. invite him to an EC meeting. Not done (retain)
 - b. ask 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.
 - c. Ask how the “Day in the Life of a Water Droplet in Pequannock” field day might be coordinated. Not done (retain)
- 5) NEW: *finalize dates with Jeff Keller to conduct a presentation in town.*
- 6) NEW: Create presentation about “HHW Cleanup After Irene” and submit it at the October 19 ANJEC Environmental Congress

Melissa Florance-Lynch:

- 1) Put notice on the MCMUA HHW Collection Day in Suburban Trends, Channel 77, and Township’s electronic sign. Can draw information from Tom N’s 8/29/2013 email for this purpose. Not done.
- 2) Follow up with EC requests to Green Sky, NYNJ Trail Commission, Peq River Commission, Rutgers Extension Master Gardeners, Solar and More, etc. to attend Hoe Down. Done. Green Sky, Solar & More came.
- 3) NEW: *Melissa to look if there is a drainage permit or other requirement for the owner of the building occupied by Patriot Flooring to maintain the catch basin(s) in the rear parking lot, which have been observed to have issues such as oil, unmaintained filters, etc.*
- 4) NEW: *Melissa is going to re-send to Diane Rizzo the one that Tom N had made – that one highlights Pequannock’s Date and a better list of what is and is not acceptable.*

5) NEW: *Melissa will submit material to Trends that Tom N sent to her to see if Trends will post some form of it. Melissa to check schedule for electronic sign posting with P&R.*

Thomas Andrea:

- 1) Reach out to Green Sky and Pequannock River Coalition about attending the Hoe Down done.
- 2) Put notice on the MCMUA HHW Collection Day on NJ.com and Facebook. Can take info from Tom N's 8/29/2013 email. Done both, and yahoo group on Butler NJ.
- 3) Plan to attend the October 19 2013 MCMUA HHW Collection Day to take photos of the activities and to email these photos to Tom Newman at tnewman@hdrinc.com planning on it.
- 4) Reach out to contact for a potential "Bio-Blitz" survey in town. Not done yet. Also, Ron will reach out to Watershed Ambassadors.
- 5) Do stream report for Glens area walked with Tom Newman: BTW, Tom N found my notes.
http://www.everytrail.com/view_trip.php?trip_id=470637 .
- 6) NEW: *Submit PEC budget request to Dave Hollberg by October 24.*
- 7) NEW: *Check availability for Tues Nov 19 or Thu Nov 21 at Sr.House and Library to see if available for Jeff Keller.*
- 8) NEW: *check to see if have Tom N's email regarding ideas for website.*

Rudy Steinthal:

- 1) Plan to man Hoe Down booth for entire time done
- 2) Blue line listing for checklist (name streams), using files from Tom N. not done

Philip Dickinson:

1. Plan to man Hoe Down booth 12-1pm done

Jeff Mauriello:

- 1) Order Composter as Hoe Down raffle prize (done during meeting) done
- 2) Bring Composter to Hoe Down or arrange for another EC member to do so. done

Ron Baran:

- 1) Reach out to NYNJ Trail Commission and Rutgers Extension Master Gardeners groups about attending Hoe Down. Done

2) NEW: *Check for contact at Watershed Ambassador for our watershed (Pompton River/NW NJ).*

Tom Murphy:

- 1) Plan to man Hoe Down booth for as long as possible not done.
- 2) Review Tom N's ideas RE website changes. Need to get the ideas from Tom N!

Ralph DiBuono:

- 1) Plan to man Hoe Down booth for entire duration. done

N) General Calendar

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

October 19, 2013, ANJEC Environmental Congress, Tom Newman do his presentation about "HHW Cleanup After Irene".

O) Adjournment 9:32 pm

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.