

**Environmental Commission Meeting
Minutes
May 27, 2009**

A. Open Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 7:37 p.m. and announced that all laws governing the Open Public Meetings Act had been met and that the meeting had been duly advertised. *Jackie Oliphant volunteered to be the recorder.*

Members Present:

Cheryl Filler, Chair
Steve Foster
Jackie Oliphant
Jim Hutzelmann
Jay Kelly

Members of the Public

Ms. Collette Johnson

B. Minutes:

1. April 14, 2009 - approved.

C. LOI Review:

1. Route 12 County Bridge – General Permit - Noted no action taken
2. B. 31, L. 37 Noted no action taken

D. Correspondence:

1. Letter from South Branch dated April 13, 2009 Noted no action taken
2. Letter from State of NJ regarding suspected hazardous discharge at 720 Route 202 Noted no action taken
3. Letter from McFarland Johnson dated April 9, 2009 Noted no action taken
4. Letter from State of NJ regarding B. 94, L. 4 Noted no action taken
5. Letter from State of NJ regarding B. 98, L. 2.24 Noted no action taken
6. Letter from State of NJ regarding B. 36, L. 96 Noted no action taken
7. Thank you letter from Trish Sarrow Noted no action taken
8. Invitation from URWA Noted no action taken

9. Wake Up Call Breakfast Noted no action taken
10. Letter from State of NJ regarding hazardous discharge at 224 Summer Rd. Noted no action taken
11. Letter from State of NJ regarding hazardous discharge at 58 Readington Rd. Noted no action taken
12. Memo from Board of Health dated April 24, 2009 Re: NJDEP letter “On-Scene Coordinator Discharge Authorization” Noted no action taken
13. Letter from Hunterdon County Parks & Recreation dated May 4, 2009 Noted no action taken
14. Letter from State of NJ regarding B. 98, L. 2.2 Noted no action taken
15. Letter from State of NJ regarding COAH Premeditation Report Noted no action taken
16. Letter from State of NJ regarding Final Surface Water Renewal Permit Action – Sanitary Wastewater Noted no action taken
17. Letter from PSEG letter requesting general permit to cut trees Jackie Oliphant made a motion to write a letter to NJDEP objecting to this request. Steve Foster seconded the motion. Motion was carried with a vote of Ayes all, Nays none recorded.
18. Letter from State of NJ to Steve Glasson regarding B. 36, L. 7 Noted no action taken
19. Letter from State of NJ regarding hazardous discharge for 3 Emmons Road Noted no action taken
20. Letter from State of NJ regarding 550 gallon underground gas tank for B. 64, L. 28 Noted no action taken
21. Letter from EC to NJDEP regarding B. 21.13, L. 7 LOI review Noted no action taken

E Other Business:

1. NJ Transit proposed 500-space parking lot on B. 14, L. 5 Clinton Twp.

(Jim Hutzelmann recused himself from hearing this matter)

The Chair stated that Clinton Township Environmental Commission forwarded a letter to NJ Transit opposing this application.

Jackie Oliphant made a motion to send letter. Jay Kelly seconded the motion. *Motion* was carried with a vote of *Ayes all, Nays none recorded*.

Jim Hutzelmann returned to the meeting.

2. Plan for Township for applying herbicides and pesticides – Steve Foster informed the commission that Jane Nogaki has the potential to provide leadership for the township for the Green Team which is being created for the “Sustainable Communities”. Part of the Green Team’s mission is to execute 10 different items, but 3 of the items include, green cleaning, pesticide free zones, etc. The township has initiated a plan with the Parks & Recreation group along with Department of Public Works to reduce the amount of pesticides used on the ball fields and the parks. Jane Nogaki has the expertise to bring all of the entities together so that they are in line with the State DEP mandates and to provide some guidance. She has worked successfully with 17 other communities. Her services will be offered free to the township.

Mrs. Filler stated that the Township Committee decided to move ahead with the “Green Team” and set the administrator/clerk to run it. A meeting will take place shortly.

(telephone conference)

Jane Nogaki, Pesticides Program Coordinator with the Water Action Organization NJ Federation. She has the responsibility of working with municipalities to implement “Green Team Actions”, including no pesticides zones within the community. This would include less toxic cleaning methods and procedures. Ms. Nogaki stated that there are 3 components to their healthy town’s and healthy school’s program which are: green cleaning, pesticide free zone and no idling. They have 3 model resolutions that a municipality can adopt. An educational component is implemented. Over 150 towns have participated and passed a resolution to participate in the Sustainable New Jersey program. The board viewed a power point presentation. She recommended that a representative from Readington Township attend that course being offered on August 18, 2009 on organic lawn care sponsored by Northeast Organic Farming Association located at the Duke Farms located in Hillsborough. The course will provide information on how to take care of lawns and landscapes organically. Also she stated that they could arrange telephone calls with other municipalities that are successful with eliminating pesticide and herbicide use, which are: Bernards Township, Fair Lawn and Voorhees. There is additional information available on

line identified as At Clean Water Action Programming Initiative Pesticides free campaign. This information will be forwarded to the Township Committee.

3. Ordinance requiring the use of drop spreaders only – Mrs. Filler informed everyone that the EC has been encouraged to endorse an ordinance to use drop spreading rather than spray spreading, so that the application can be controlled. No action was taken.

4. NJPO ALERT: Inherently Beneficial Uses

Bill A-3062 - the Chair stated that there was a letter from NJPO from the League of Municipalities alerting that there was a bill that went through the Senate, Bill - A3062. This has to do with solar wind facilities; however, it does not allow the municipality the right to zone. The Planning Board is writing a letter in support of the bill, however, not when there is any control over managing the location. The Chair will forward to the Environmental Commission a copy of the Planning Board's letter. Once it is received, the Chair will request that the members vote on whether a similar letter should be sent on behalf of the Environmental Commission opposing the bill.

5. TRC attendance (see attached schedule) If you cannot make the meeting, the members must let the secretary know.

6. Updates to the Master Plan – The Chair announced that the updates will be circulated shortly. When it comes out to the Planning Board it will be forwarded for the EC's review.

7. Sustainable Community Team – The Chair asked if anyone would be interested in participating. Jim Hutzemann, Steve Foster and Jackie Oliphant volunteered to take part.

8. Environmental Commission Training – Mr. Foster announced that there will be training on Tuesday, June 9th Environmental Resource Inventory and on Tuesday, June 18th, Environmental Considerations and Site Plan Review. These are web trainings.

9. Grant for the Environmental Easements on private property – Mr. Foster was concerned that there has not been a lot of progress and suggested that someone else might have to work on the project.

F. Site Plan Review and Comment

PLANNING BOARD – HEARING FILES

- 1 Ridge Road Realty, LLC
Preliminary Major Subdivision
Block 38, Lots 54, 74, 75
Pearl Street
Action date: June 12, 2009

The Chair stated that she will write a letter to the Planning Board expressing concerns on the layout of the development and could there be a more improved way to cluster the development. Everyone thought that a letter had been drafted prior to this meeting. Mr. Hutzemann recommended that the applicant should explore the possibility of reducing the amount of fill and modifying the culvert on Maria's Court to a bridge span. There is Wood Turtle habitat on the southeast corner of the site. The Chair borrowed the EIS from the file in order that she can prepare a letter. Once it is drafted she will circulate it to the rest of the commission for comments.

PLANNING BOARD – COMPLETENESS FILES

1. John & Tracy Wall
4 Headquarters Rd.
Minor Site Plan
B. 25.02, L. 3
Action Date: June 18, 2009

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT – HEARING FILES

1. Mark Hartman
Preliminary-Final Site Plan
Use and Bulk Variance, Minor Subdivision
US Rt. 22

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT - COMPLETENESS FILES:

None

- G. Educational Opportunities

None

- H. Publications

1. The Current

- I. Minutes
Board of Adjustment

Planning Board

J. Soil Conservation Reports

- 1. HCSCD B. 63, L. 3 “Report of Compliance” Noted**
- 2. HCSCD B. 50, L. 3 “Nearing Completion” Noted**
- 3. HCSCD B. 66, L. 57 “Final Report of Compliance” Noted**
- 4. HCSCD B. 8, L. 3 “Incomplete Application” Noted**
- 5. vacant**
- 6. HCSCD B. 65, L. 18.05 “Okay to Issue Building Permit” Noted**
- 7. HCSCD B. 36, L. 97 “Nearing Completion” Noted**
- 8. HCSCD B. 42, L. 18 “Letter of Conditional Certification” Noted**

K. Public Comment

L. Adjournment

Motion by Steve Foster to adjourn at 9:48 p.m. Seconded by Jim Hutzelmann. Motion was carried with a vote of Ayes all, Nays none recorded.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Oliphant