

Environmental Commission Meeting

Minutes

October 28, 2008 @ 7:30 PM

A. Open Meeting

Meeting is called to order at 7:30 p.m. and it is announced that all laws governing the Open Public Meetings Act had been met and that the meeting had been duly advertised. Steve Foster volunteered as record keeper.

Members Present:

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

Public Present:

**Clinton Township Environmental Commission
Readington Township Board of Health
General public**

B. Minutes:

1. September 23, 2008 *Steve Foster made a motion to approve the minutes. Jackie Oliphant seconded the motion. Motion was carried with a vote of Ayes all, Nays none recorded.*

C. LOI Review Carried to next meeting

- 1. B. 13, L. 5**
- 2. B. 63, L. 50**
- 3. B. 32, L. 12**
- 4. B. 34, L. 10**

D. Correspondence: Carried to next meeting

- 1. Copy of letter addressed to Vita Mekovetz from Kleinfelder regarding Exxon Facility #33458**
- 2. Copy of letter from State of NJ regarding B. 22, L. 22 underground storage heating oil tank**
- 3. Copy of letter from State of NJ regarding underground storage heating oil tank located at 114 Dreahook Rd.**
- 4. Copy of letter from State of NJ regarding remedial action report for 203 Johnson Rd.**
- 5. Copy of letter from State of NJ regarding remedial action report for 10 Weather Hill Rd.**
- 6. Copy of letter addressed to Vita Mekovetz from Harbor Consultants regarding B. 70, Lot 31.01**

7. Thank you from URWA
8. Copy of letter from EcolSciences, Inc. regarding B. 4, L. 47, et als.
9. Copy of letter from State of NJ regarding hazardous substance discharge notification NJDEP Case #08-09-24-1644-43.
10. Copy of letter from State of NJ regarding hazardous substance discharge notification NJDEP Case #08-10-07-1241-47
11. Copy of letter from State of NJ regarding hazardous substance discharge notification NJDEP Case #08-10-06-0906-26

E Other Business:

1. Road Show sponsored by ANJEC

Dave Peifer and Peggy Snyder from ANJEC were welcomed by the EC. They made a presentation on stormwater strategies.

Mr. Peifer stated that nothing exists in a time vacuum. Whatever projects you plan will be affected by what has happened in the past. One of the things to think about when you are working with stormwater is to try to find out what the history of the site is and what the history of the region consists of. Find out the watershed where the site is located. This history will give you constraints that will prevent you from doing certain things and it will also give you opportunities for things that you can do. The original condition of Readington was almost 100 % forested. In 1790 the township was largely cleared of wood. The stream channels and the wetlands and the entire surface water system that exists in Readington have been trying to adapt itself to that original loss of forest. Under the original forested condition there could have been 10% of the annual rainfall resulting in runoff, with 75% impervious cover you might be up to 50% of the annual rainfall running off the surfaces. He wanted to suggest that the surface water system be moved back towards what it was originally.

Peggy Snyder stated that she is an engineer and has done storm water designs but primarily she performs analysis of storm water systems for development applications. She stated that rainwater is a great natural resource that has to be protected. Stormwater is not a nuisance. She stated that when rainwater hits the ground it does one of 3 things; it either infiltrates down into the ground water; it can be absorbed into the plants, roots and stones; the water that does neither of those two things is runoff. It runs off into our streams and depending upon where it is running, it can collect non-point source pollutants. She stated that in 2004, the NJDEP adopted a new set of stormwater regulations and they require certain mitigating procedures that a developer would have to do when a development is built. They have to reduce the peak flows of stormwater coming off of the site, they would have to provide groundwater recharge for some of the stormwater and they also have to provide water quality treatment. There is also a fourth component which consists of nine non-structural stormwater strategies. The first is to protect areas that provide water quality benefits or areas that are susceptible to erosion and sediment loss. The second is to minimize impervious surfaces or break them up; maximize the protection of natural drainage features and vegetation; minimize the

decrease in the time of concentration; minimize land disturbance; minimize soil compaction; provide low maintenance landscaping; open channel conveyance systems; provide source controls to keep pollutants and other items from entering the system. The most important factor for environmental commission members and planning board members is when you review an application the first item to look for is have they used non-structural stormwater strategies. The regulations state that you have to use them first. Also, they have to protect areas that provide water quality benefits or that are susceptible to erosion and sediment loss. Steep slopes and wetlands have to be protected. She discussed ways to limit disturbance. She warned against soil compaction. She informed everyone about the point system and the problems associated with it. She stated that the regulations require that all of the 9 non-structural strategies and any that you have not used, and the reasons why have to be submitted in writing. However, the point system does not require this type of documentation.

Ms. Snyder stated that the only structural systems that don't need maintenance are the pipes that are in the ground, but even they could break and have infiltration problems. All basins of any sort need maintenance after every major storm event. They are supposed to be inspected. It is less expensive to build non-structural systems. Moving forward with new developments you could ask them to eliminate curbs.

Bill Nugent asked if the soil borings should be distributed to the Environmental Commission and the Planning Board. Ms. Snyder agreed that it would be a good idea.

Mr. Peifer informed the EC that they should write a report and submit same to the township committee indicating what changes to the ordinance they would recommend based upon their plan review and current zoning. This is how the EC can use their advisory power.

Mr. Peifer and Ms. Snyder recited to everyone their experiences in working in other municipalities.

F. Educational Opportunities Carried to next meeting

1. County of Hunterdon “what’s new in septic system technologies” scheduled for October 29, 2008.
2. ANJEC “Elements of Sustainability” scheduled for October 30, 2008, from 7-9:30 p.m. located at the Highland Park Borough Hall.
3. Annual Volunteer Monitoring Conference from South Branch

G. Site Plan Review and Comment

PLANNING BOARD – HEARING FILES Carried to next meeting

- 1 Janet Rollero/Healthy U Personal Training, Inc.
Block 21.01, Lot 8
Minor site plan
Action Date: November 6, 2008

PLANNING BOARD – COMPLETENESS FILES

None

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT – HEARING FILES Carried to next meeting

1. Hanna Saqa
Variance and minor subdivision
Block 75, Lot 33
2. Winfield Management Corp.
Preliminary-Final Site Plan &
Use Variance
Action date: December 19, 2008

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT – COMPLETENESS FILES Carried to next meeting

1. Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless
Preliminary-Final Site Plan &
Use Variance
291 US Rt. 22
Action date: November 28, 2008

H. Publications
none

I. Minutes

Board of Adjustment
Planning Board

J. Soil Conservation Reports Carried to next meeting

1. HCSCD regarding Whitehouse Prep. School, B. 36, L. 96 “Okay to issue building permit”
2. HCSCD regarding Readington Manors, B. 42, L. 17.04 “Okay to issue building permit”
3. HCSCD regarding Brown Addition, B. 50, L. 3 “Letter of certification”

4. HCSCD regarding Ferreira, B. 39, L. 53.14 “Okay to issue building permit”
 5. HCSCD regarding Rockaway Creek, B. 39, L. 57 “Report of Compliance”
 6. HCSCD regarding Eng, B. 97, L. 2 “Report of Compliance”
 7. HCSCD regarding Fiddler’s Elbow Golf improvement project B. 12, L. 15 “Report of Compliance”
 8. HCSCD regarding Summer Road Soccer Fields, B. 75, L. 18 “Letter of Certification”
 9. HCSCD regarding Merck, B. 4, L. 47-50 et als., “Letter of Recertification”
 10. HCSCD regarding Accettola, B. 63, L. 11 “Report of Compliance”
- K. Public Comment
- L. ADJOURNMENT:

Jim Hutzelmann made a motion to adjourn at 9:41 p.m. Steve Foster seconded the motion. Motion was carried with a vote of Ayes all, Nays none recorded.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Foster