

PEQUANNOCK TOWNSHIP  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday, June 9, 2010; 7:30 PM  
Pequannock Town Hall  
Second Floor Conference Room

*Minutes*

- A) Call to Order
- B) Roll Call  
(Tom N., Rudy, Philip, Christopher, Lisa,)
- C) Public Comments
- D) Special Presentations
- E) Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes - 5/12/2010 – *Approved (Tom N moved to approve and Rudy seconded).*
- F) Budget Report (Tom A.) \$620 from 2010, \$351 reserved from 2009 to pay for a spring hike with Jeff Keller. *Has Jeff been paid? Tom A was going to check for Habitat by Design rather than “Jeff Keller” as the payee.*
- G) Chairperson's Report (Tom N.)
  - 1) *Girl Scout tour of the “water cycle:” start at reservoir, go to town wells, end at Two Bridges STP. Action Item for Tom N: continue to coordinate this.*
  - 2) *ANJEC Grant? – award notice would have gone to Frank -Frank says no update*
  - 3) *ANJEC web sessions – June 14, 17, and 21 (May 24 email) – there is some interest in participating – best thing may be to meet at a central spot and dial in as a group. Action Item for those interested: coordinate this with Tom A, sign up and participate.*
- H) Town Council Liaison Report (Joe) – *(Absent)*
- I) Planning Board Liaison Report (Philip)
  - 1) *Presented plan to subdivide Driesse property – runs between West End and Woodland – vote in 2 weeks. (This is subject of a mail).*
  - 2) *Hearle village: knocking down 2 houses to expand.*
- J) Open Space Liaison Report (Rudy)
  - 1) *ANJEC grant – Frank says no word yet*
  - 2) *Parks – Triathlon Aug 8.*
  - 3) *PV Park opened on time*
  - 4) *July 1 Fireworks*
  - 5) *Hillview Bathroom – awaiting sewer line permits*
  - 6) *Online registration for Parks programs*
  - 7) *Community Garden underway*
  - 8) *Greenview park – back to drawing board because bids came in too high*

K) Garbage Committee Report (Joe?) *No update, but this was supposed to be finalized in June?*

L) Business

1) Ditch/Flood Gate inspections. Action Item: Rudy says he will next target Beaver Brook Road - West Ditch, and behind Golden Panther Park.

2) Annual River Clean Up – *Rudy is looking at April 2, 2011*

3) PV Park water quality/clarity

a) *Tom Andrea supplementing Town's checks for E. Coli bacteria. So far tests are looking good. Also checking "general coliforms" in water. Town does its test on Tuesdays; Tom tests will be done one or two other days during the week. The hope is if E. Coli or general coliforms goes up to high levels it will be spotted quicker. Tom N said that we need to be careful about this: we are not certified to do this testing and so the value of the testing is questionable. If we get a high reading, what would that mean? Maybe it would prompt the town to do an earlier measurement than they otherwise would, but the town may not want that trouble. The best use I can see is that we get low readings and then if the town gets a high reading, we would be able to say something like "a day before, an unofficial reading was low" so it might help to pinpoint when a high condition began.*

b) *As of 6/6 water clarity was good and swimming water temperature was excellent (nice and warm, subjective ☺) but no water was being circulated with Woodland Lake.*

c) *ENGINEER's REPORT says that the berm is structurally not sound enough to drain the PV Park lake for cleaning.*

4) Community Garden, status? *Started.*

5) Ho-Down September 18th

a) *Lisa says last year's Project Porchlite contact may no longer be there (unresponsive) so Action Item: Lisa to get another contact.*

b) *Action Item: EC to schedule a time to put together the composter*

c) *We need to order bags soon (Action Item: Tom N to review the site Tom A suggested)*

d) *Rudy: we still have gift certificates from Shoprite (\$14.55) and Target (\$20)*

6) Walkable Communities Workshop Program. *Action Item: Tom A to keep EC updated via email.*

7) Grants

a) *ANJEC grant to update Pequannock's Open Space and Recreation Plan – No word on award yet.*

b) *Seed Grants for Greenways Projects Kodak American Greenways Awards Program (ANJEC email, May 4<sup>th</sup>) Who was*

*supposed to look at this? Tom N forwarded it to the NY NJ Trail Conference but did not get a reply.*

8) Ordinances or Resolutions

a) Municipal Well Head Protection Ordinance (*Tom Andrea supports this ordinance and recommends that we let the Town Manager know if the Environmental Commission supports the ordinance.*) Tom N supports in concept but has not reviewed this in detail –his concern is that it may not be protective enough. Action Item: Tom A to forward to Dave Hollberg with EC support.

9) Bamboo, Environmental Commission’s recommendations to Council on invasive forms of this plant.

a) *Need clarification on what the Council wants.*

b) *Christopher says there is some evidence of people winning suits to recover damages from neighbors who plant invasive species. Action Item: Christopher to document these references.*

*Council may want to know whether there is a precedent for invasives/landscape ordinance. Tom N says he is aware that there is such a thing as a Landscape Ordinance, but he could not find evidence of one in NJ. Action Item: Tom N to look into this.*

M) Action Items:

All:

- 1) Stream inspections. (*See above: Rudy to visit 2 sites*)
- 2) Website: compile list of websites and internet links to include.
- 3) Ho Down: Need to order bags, assemble composter, get info RE composting, come up with suitable game/activity

Tom Newman:

- 1) Send letter of appreciation to Jen Hardie for all her Environmental Commission work. *Not done.*
- 2) Review stream-inspection reports completed since last submittal. When complete, submit the new reports to Council. *Not done*

Joseph Jorgensen:

- 1) Get township staff for “Green Team” for “Sustainable NJ”. Resolution from Council on Green Team. We do have a staff person from Town to Green Team. Joe will get name
- 2) Will get energy audits from Dave Hollberg.
- 3) Street Fair in June – may not be able to get a Green display.

- 4) Have Parks & Recreation contact Environmental commission when looking to acquire items like the recycling containers, etc. (*Said at Council meeting to Manager.*)

Thomas Andrea:

- 1) Keep track of municipal energy audit; the Contact is Ben Jackal with TRC Energy Services, (732) 855 2894. RFP will await new township engineer.
- 2) Walkable Communities Workshop for Pequannock. (*A site survey is tentatively scheduled for 6/25, 3PM at CVS.*)
- 3) Give Tom N. Boy Scout Contact information. (*Done, emailed*)

Lisa Martinus:

- 1) Sustainable NJ. *Walmart Grant due July 1 but no action so far. Lisa will pursue this with Dave Hollberg.*
- 2) *Sneaker Recycling -*
- 3) Project Porchlite – contact for Ho-Down – *she is having trouble finding a contact*

Christopher Lotito:

Rudy Steinthal:

- 1) Continue Stream Inspections.
- 2) 2011 River Clean-up planning. *April 2 is first Saturday of month – potential.*

Philip Dickinson:

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

- 1) M2010-037
  - a) From – The Township of Pequannock Board of Adjustment
  - b) Date – 5/12/2010
  - c) Subject – Jan Fence Co., Block 4402, Lot 6, 4 Industrial Rd.
  - d) Action – **Comments and Recommendations sought** *comments submitted.*
  - e) Details – Modifying a parcel in town for their business
- 2) M2010-038
  - a) From – State of NJ DEP Bureau of Northern Field Operations
  - b) Date – 5/25/2010
  - c) Subject – No Further Action Letter
  - d) Action – FYI

e) Details – Surface Spill of gasoline from airplane crash, 204 Sunset Road

3) M2010-039

a) From – State of NJ DEP Division of Watershed Management

b) Date – 6/2/2010

c) Subject – Cedar Crest Village Pipe Replacement Floodwall and Inlet

d) Action – FYI

e) Details – Not Major Highlands Development Water Quality Management Plan – Not Addressed.

4) M2010-040

a) From – The Township of Pequannock Planning Board Land Development Review

b) Date – 6/4/2010

c) Subject – Driesse Subdivision, Block 1802, Lot 27,28, 70 West End Ave.

d) Action – **Comments and Recommendations sought** – *comments submitted.*

e) Details – 3 lot subdivision application

5) M2010-041

a) From – Pequannock River Coalition

b) Date – June 2010

c) Subject – Monthly Newsletter

d) Action – FYI

e) Details – Summer Events, awards, new water gauge - Pequannock River at Oak Ridge NJ

<http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/uv?01382210> .

O) General Calendar

1) Ho Down – September 18

P) Adjournment

## 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.