

PEQUANNOCK TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday, December 8, 2010; 7:30 PM
Pequannock Town Hall
Second Floor Conference Room

Minutes

- A) Call to Order
- B) Roll Call
(Tom Newman., Rudy, Christopher, Tom Andrea., Lisa, Joe)
- C) Public Comments
 - 1) *At Christopher's suggestion, Tom Ferraro and Peter Dunne visited our Environmental Commission Meeting. They are from "Solar and More," a new store to open in Feb/Mar by Route 23 Buffet, that will sell photo-voltaic ("PV") as well as solar thermal and geo-thermal systems. Tom, who lives in Kinnelon, hopes the store will generate interest with their displays and demos so people can become familiar and comfortable with the technology. They will also be able to discuss applicable tax incentives.*
 - 2) *Pequannock resident Jeff Mauriello who is awaiting official appointment to the Environmental Commission is noted to be present at this meeting.*
- D) Special Presentations - None
- E) Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes - 11/10/2010 – Rudy motioned, Lisa 2nd.
- F) Budget Report (Tom A.) \$305.65 –*Discussion about the best way to apply these funds. Conclusion: step 1: determine annual copy costs (Tom Andrea to get from Holly) and deduct those from amount available. Step 2: Tom Andrea to pay the ANJEC 2011 dues (\$280). Step 3. If funds are available, apply them to the ANJEC workshop program fee (we will pay the rest of the fee in 2011). ALTERNATE PLAN: if the above plan does not work for some reason, Tom Andrea will contact Tom Newman and we will purchase a dozen environmental commission caps (at about \$150) and perhaps a new Environmental Commission banner for the Ho Down table.*
- G) Chairperson's Report (Tom Newman)
 - 1) *Caps: simple text "Pequannock Environmental Commission" on front and "Environmental Commission" on back will cost around \$13 each.*
 - 2) *Household Hazardous Waste Day (HHW): Waiting for confirmation from Dave Hollberg on date (5/7)*
 - 3) *Ho Down Article: Steve Janoski wasn't sure if it made the paper – he asked me to re-submit (I did) and he said he'd put it in again*

- 4) *Revised Flood Maps (for updating ERI) – Tom Newman’s contact at Morris County Planner (Virginia Michelin) checked and found that the flood maps have not yet been updated.*
 - 5) *2010 Blue Line Inspection Reports – Tom Newman has not yet finalized these.*
 - 6) *Scout Tour “A day in the life of a water droplet” – Tom Newman heard back from his contacts at TBSA (Bob Bongiovanni and Ernie Degraw) that construction progress will allow tours again. Tom Newman reached out to scout leader, who requested a tour for a Saturday in January; Tom Newman reached out to Bill Pereira and is waiting for a response.*
 - 7) *Cell-tower email from Jim Iorio (received Nov 28)—did anyone attend? (Joe mentioned he heard that there was a heavy residential turnout opposing the cell tower location)*
 - 8) *Year-end report – Tom Newman will compile at end of year and submit to council after passing by all on the Environmental Commission to make sure we hit all the highlights!*
 - 9) *In January: Tom Newman will compile Goals for 2011 – seeking all Environmental Commission members’ input.*
- H) **Town Council Liaison Report (Joe)**
- 1) *Re-introduce sewer ordinance – technicality needed to be fixed*
 - 2) *Dave Hollberg: 3-yr contract as Manager was approved*
 - 3) *Presentation at 12/14 by LED sign distributor – for shop front signs, etc. The Township is looking to regulate LED signs better.*
 - 4) *Our Ranger Paul applied for and got an \$8K grant from Federal Highway Administration for trail maintenance, for benches, signage, etc. (NYNJ Trail Commission) Mountainside Park. Many downed trees.*
 - 5) *Ch. 77 back up again.*
 - 6) *Economic development commission had first meeting.*
 - 7) *Joe mentioned there is a business in Wayne on Newark-Pompton Turnpike that pays for certain recyclables. The business is in a yellow house across from the Animal Hospital with a “Cash is King” sign.*
- I) **Planning Board Liaison Report (Philip) Absent**
- J) **Open Space Liaison Report (Rudy)**
- 1) *No meeting in November, but article in Trends listed acquisitions; inspections showed clean sites.*
- K) **Garbage Committee Report (Joe)**
- Three contracts:*
- Garbage: GAETA – (973) 278-6625*
- Recycling: Advanced Recycling – (201) 594-0531*
- Vegetative: Blue Diamond – (973) 598-9800*
- L) **Business**
- 1) **Ditch/Flood Gate inspections - resume inspections in January**

- 2) Annual River Clean Up - *Rudy has sent out emails. Rudy may be away for about two weeks (last week of January and first of February). Rudy may need some assistance with surveying areas in March.*
- 3) PV Park water quality/clarity – *floats are still in the water – Joe noted that he will bring this up at Council meeting. They may be damaged if not removed before ice forms. Tom Andrea also called the Parks and Recreation department and was told they would contact Bill Pereira to ask about the rafts.*
- 4) Community Garden – *A resounding success in its first year. This winter, Joe Jorgensen and Mr. VanWingerden to install drip irrigation system, the raised beds will be expanded.*
- 5) Ho-Down – *Article to be published Suburban Trends (see above), this will be useful for the Green Team to document what was done at Ho-Down.*
- 6) Walkable Communities Workshop Program. *Tom Andrea discussed with Denise of Morris County DOT – who said the document in the works and that we'll be pleased.*
- 7) Grants: *Joe: Beautification program grants (for flower plantings) will be looked at too.*
- 8) TBSA Tour with Rich Phelan – January – *3 people from Green Team showed interest.*
- 9) Household Hazardous Waste day in town with MCMUA, tentative date May 7, 2011: still waiting for
 - a) Resolution of municipal building parking lot issue (with Church)
 - b) Approval from Dave Hollberg
 - c) Final approval from Tom Burbridge
- 10) End-of-year expenditures, 2010? *Potential items include: 2011 ANJEC membership fees \$280 and workshop fees, EC caps (\$150), portable flash drive (\$50-\$100), waders (\$100), EC banners (\$?), 2010 copying costs, and maybe a lead test kit.*
- 11) Septic Tanks - *Educate town about maintenance and look at other towns ordinances on septic tank maintenance. Related item: TBSA looking for input from town whether or not to expand capacity – town is reviewing. Tom Andrea handed out a printout from the County website showing existing and “planned” sewer area; planned map showed the entire town sewer. Action Item: Tom Newman to contact Virginia Michelin about the County’s “plans” for sewer Pequannock – where did this come from because this is not in Pequannock’s Master Plan.*
- 12) Ordinances or Resolutions
 - a) Municipal Well Head Protection Ordinance – to be looked at in the future.

M) Action Items:

All:

- 1) Stream inspections. *To start in January*
- 2) Website: *compile list of websites and internet links to include. Give Tom Andrea more information. Tom Andrea updated and restored the link to the ERI, and checked the other links.*
- 3) Goals for 2011: *Please think of specific, high-priority items that you'd like to accomplish in 2011 – we will prioritize the list and keep as a guide for the year.*

Tom Newman:

- 1) Review stream-inspection reports completed since last submittal. When complete, submit the new reports to Council. *Tom Newman reports: "I will complete this in December."*
- 2) Make year-end summary of our accomplishments in 2010. *Tom Newman reports: "I will complete this at year end."*
- 3) Article in Suburban Trends on Ho Down - has it appeared? –*Tom Newman reports: "I contacted Steve Janowski of the Suburban Trends who could not confirm that the article ran; I re-submitted material so article may yet run in December."*
- 4) New flood maps are available? *Tom Newman reports: "I contacted Virginia Michelin (Morris Co. Planner's Office) who said new flood maps are not out yet. She will let me know when they are available."*
- 5) Girl Scout trip to TBSA, follow up with TBSA about construction. *Tom Newman reports: "I contacted TBSA- they are ready for tours again. I followed up with Alison Beshada (scout leader), who requested a tour be done on a Saturday in January. I then emailed Bill Pereira to coordinate (Bill has not yet responded)."*
- 6) *Draft list of 2011 goals.*

Joseph Jorgensen:

- 1) Will get energy audit information from Dave Hollberg. *Joe reports: "Nothing new to report on this."*

Thomas Andrea:

- 1) Keep track of municipal energy audit; the Contact is Ben Jackal with TRC Energy Services, (732) 855 2894. *Tom Andrea reports: "The RFP will await new township engineer."*
- 2) Get township staff name for "Green Team" for "Sustainable NJ". *Tom Andrea reports: "New staff member needs to be appointed."*
- 3) Does the town recycle bottles and cans left in recyclable containers at parks and sports fields in town?

Tom Andrea reports: "Yes, contents of the containers go to a commingled container either at town hall or DPW."

- 4) What does the new company that picks up our recyclables from the curb do with those recyclables?

Tom Andrea reports: "They bring our recyclables to Green Sky Industries in Clifton, NJ <http://www.greenskyind.com/> (973) 772-0253. I spoke to Joe McNellis at Green Sky Industries, who lives in our town, our recyclables are separated and sold with some going overseas. Last month there was 125 tons of recyclables from our town which was very good. Joe will be working with Peter in our Health Department to do some recycling education in our town. I offered both Joe and Peter the Environmental Commission's help."

- 5) Could the town use more recycling lids?

Tom Andrea reports: "Bill Pereira, the Superintendent of Public Works, said yes but mentioned that Denise, the Director of the Parks and Recreation Department, might be getting some too."

- 6) Get some Ordinances on septic tank maintenance.

Tom Andrea reports: Here is a great deal of Highlands information from Somerset County:

<http://www.co.somerset.nj.us/planweb/wastewater/>

Morris County Wastewater Management Plan:

<http://www.morrisplanning.org/wastewater.asp>

- 7) New Council members contact information.

Tom Andrea reports: New member contact info is as follows:

mlynch@peqtwp.org

rphelan@peqtwp.org

cwinterfield@peqtwp.org

Lisa Martinus:

- 1) Sustainable NJ. *Lisa reports: "Green Team put in a display at the library about the Ho-Down."*
- 2) 2011 Recreation Trail Application – is this something we are on top of? *Lisa reports: "Ranger Paul is on top of it (Parks and Recreation)".*
- 3) Earth Day Info Night at Library by Strawberry Blossom. *Lisa reports that this will be a session on eco-friendly lawn care, 4/13 at 7PM.*

Christopher Lotito:

Rudy Steinthal:

- 1) Continue Stream Inspections.
- 2) 2011 River Clean-up planning.

Philip Dickinson:

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

1) M2010-065

- a) From – ANJEC
- b) Date – 12/4/2010
- c) Subject – Membership renewal and our members list
- d) Action – We want to renew with workshop plan. *If possible, let's use our remaining 2010 Environmental Commission funds towards the \$340 renewal fee.*
- e) Details – Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions does a lot of great work and supports our town and Environmental Commission.

2) M2010-066

- a) From – Pequannock River Coalition
- b) Date – 12/2010
- c) Subject – The Pequannock Post Newsletter
- d) Action – FYI
- e) Details – News and information from Pequannock River Coalition.

O) General Calendar

- January [TBD] – “Day in the life of a water drop” tour with brownie troop
- Jan/Feb [TBD] – TBSA tour with Rich Phelan
- April 2, 2011 - Annual River Clean Up
- May 7, 2011 – Tentative Household Hazardous Waste day in town

P) Adjournment 9:30 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.