

**Township of West Milford
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

MINUTES

JANUARY 7, 2013

The January 7, 2013 regular meeting of the Township of West Milford Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:32 p.m. with a reading of the Legal Notice.

Oaths of Office were administered to Douglas Ott, Lucas Slott, Thomas Tamayne.

ROLL CALL: Present: Andrew Abdul, Douglas Ott, Thomas Tamayne, Gary Oppenheimer, *Vacancy*, Alternates Timothy Dalton and Lucas Slott, Chairman Stephen Sangle.

Absent: Don Weise

Chairman Stephen Sangle advised that a quorum was present to conduct this meeting. Timothy Dalton and Lucas Slott were requested to sit in for the vacancies.

PRESENTATIONS

Chairman Sangle advised that Ben Burton was scheduled to attend this meeting, but due to a conflict, must re-schedule to the next Commission meeting.

Dr. Fred Lubnow of Princeton Hydro was present to review the status of the grants that the Environmental Commission had been involved with for numerous years. Regarding the 604b OWTS grant, Dr. Lubnow advised the Commission that the final report had been submitted to the NJDEP and the grant is closed. Chairman Sangle requested that the Township be provided 2 unbound copies and 1 bound copy of the report, in addition to a digital copy. A discussion ensued regarding bio peat filter systems.

Dr. Lubnow proceeded to review the proposed 319(h) grant projects for the Commission that would utilize the remaining grant funds. The following is a report received January 9, 2013 on the 319 grants:

Just before the Holidays Princeton Hydro obtained the Agreement with the Township of West Milford to initiate the second set of stormwater projects proposed for design and implementation under the NPS 319(h) grant awarded during SFY2007. Thus, this second phase of the SFY2007 grant will begin in January 2013. Specifically, the stormwater projects that will be conducted include the following:

- Rain garden and culvert replacement along Marshall Hill Road
- Culvert removal (daylighting) and swale stabilization along Stainsby Road
- Installation of a Manufactured Treatment Device (MTD) on Adelaide Terrace

In addition, if there are funds remaining after these three are completed, a fourth may be conducted, which is a Filterra / vegetated inlet at the intersection of Reidy Place and Millington Avenue.

Back in 2012, Princeton Hydro had a NJ-certified surveyor collect the topographic / property boundary data needed for the Marshall Hill and Stainsby Road projects, the two projects that will be most complex relative to State permitting. It is my understanding that we have the survey data for the Stainsby Road site but not for the Marshall Hill site.

In addition to initiating the work associated with engineering design tasks, Princeton Hydro will initiate communication between the Township and the School (for the Marshall Hill project) to move that project forward. I will also start attending the Township of West Milford's Environmental Commission and the Greenwood Lake Commission meetings (alternate every other month with each Commission). Thus, I attended the EC meeting on the 7th of January, so I will be attending the GLC meeting in February, the subsequent EC meeting in March and so on. This is critical to ensure everyone is informed on the status of the projects since the grant is a joint application of both the Township and the Greenwood Lake Commission. In addition, there is an educational component to the grant that needs to be addressed and the Commissions are the most effective organizations to address this component of the project. Besides the monthly meetings, Princeton Hydro will continue to closely correspond with Mr. Miller and Ms. Goscicki of the Township to ensure the project moves along from both technical and administrative perspectives.

It should also be noted that during the 7th of January meeting, the EC asked about the potential feasibility of any of the recommended stormwater measures to be applied to the MacDonald's parking lot project just off of Marshall Hill Road. The EC is concerned that more parking spaces may generate more petroleum hydrocarbons and other non-point source pollutants. Thus, they were asking if any of the proposed 319(h) stormwater technologies could be used to enhance the pollutant removal capacity of the proposed work that will be conducted at the McDonald's parking lot. I stated that the technologies proposed for these stormwater projects can at least be reviewed and considered for use at that site, relative to feasibility, but that none of the existing 319-grant funds could be used to directly cover any such measures. The 319-grant funds can only be used for work associated with the three (possibly four) projects proposed above. Finally, I will ask our project engineer (Amy DeBuck) to provide a revised task schedule, up to submission of permits to NJDEP, assuming that we will have all of the outstanding survey data by the end of January.

APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW – None.

GRANT MANAGEMENT AND STATUS REVIEW

2007 Stormwater Implementation 319H Grant: See above.

Recreational Trails Signage Grant: It was reported that the signs are with Public Works/Engineering and Don Weise advised at the previous meeting that he would follow up with them regarding coordination of the installation.

2010 ANJEC Smart Growth Planning Grant-Trails Master Plan: Doug Ott reported that the necessary paperwork is being processed with the Township. The proposal for Joanna Slagle of Banisch Associates needed to be reviewed and approved by the Township Council prior to adoption of a resolution authorizing the consultant's contract. Mr. Ott advised that he would be in contact with Kerry Miller from ANJEC once the Township has given full approval, and a meeting will be held once all the details have been settled.

ON GOING BUSINESS

Lakes Committee: Andy Abdul advised that there was no meeting in December. He distributed and reviewed the minutes from the Lakes Committee from November 2013. He noted that the Lakes Committee discussed storm related matters and the conversation of generators and transformers dominated the meeting.

Open Space Subcommittee: Doug Ott reported that the Township Administrator's office requested a meeting regarding open space. Luke Slott requested that a sample resolution supporting open space funding in the NJ be considered by the Township Council, and Chairman Sangle advised that the proper protocol would be to discuss it with the Township Administrator at an Open Space Committee meeting.

Environmental Contamination Issues: There was nothing to report on this matter. Mr. Tamayne has attempted to meet or speak with the new Health Officer for an update on contamination issues and submission of a report on the ongoing contamination issues.

Green Team–Sustainable Jersey: No update was available per Thomas Tamayne who noted that the meeting was cancelled for December.

Tennessee Gas Pipeline: Luke Slott reported that he attempted to make contact with Senator Menendez regarding the TGP project but has not received a phone call in return. Tom Tamayne advised him to try email.

NEW BUSINESS

Braemar at West Milford, LLC – Wooley Road/Virginia Lane – It was reported that there may be trail access at the rear of the development on the conservation easement. A site visit will be arranged with Doug Ott, several other EC members and the builder and/or adjacent homeowners.

Grant Applications Anticipated for 2013: The Commission discussed several grant options and considered recommending a Sustainable Jersey PSEG grant for \$5,000.

2011–12 Annual Environmental Commission Report to Township Council: Chairman Stephen Sangle advised that he would make a presentation to the Township Council at the February 20, 2013 Council meeting. The Secretary will advise the Township Administrator to put it on the agenda for that meeting.

Sample Resolution: Sustainable State Funding for Preservation and Stewardship of Open space, Parks, Farmland and Historic Sites in New Jersey – Following discussion, the Commission unanimously approved a recommendation that the above referenced sample resolution (Keep It Green) be forwarded to the Township Council for review and possible adoption with a motion by Lucas Slott and a second by Andrew Abdul.

Watershed Ambassador – James Prisendance - Mr. Prisendance introduced himself to the Commission and advised that he was available to assist in any way within his capacity as Passaic County's ambassador. He noted that his priority was the Monksville Reservoir and was concerned about adverse effects from the Tennessee Gas Pipeline project. The Commission advised him of the planned route for the pipeline under the reservoir. He also advised that he could provide programs on rain barrels as well as other water conservation issues. Chairman Sangle invited him to attend future EC meetings.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the October 1, 2012 Regular Meeting of the West Milford Environmental Commission were **unanimously approved** on a **motion** by Timothy Dalton and a **second** by Douglas Ott.

The following correspondence was received and reviewed by the Commission prior to filing:

HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING ACT

1. Highlands Act – Exempt #4, Water Quality Management Plan – Consistent, received from the NJDEP dated November 29, 2012 regarding Surjit Singh, 555 Warwick Tpk., Block 703; Lot 3 for the demolition of an existing automobile service station, two service bays and a small office in order to construct a new building for use as a convenience store/office, the expansion of gas pumps from two to five, with a canopy proposed for the gas pumps.
2. Notification of submission to the NJDEP of a Highlands Applicability Determination Application, dated December 10, 2012, received from E2 Project Management LLC for Verizon Wireless – Ringwood 4, for the proposed construction of a 120-foot monopole with 12 wireless antennas and a 40 x 70 foot communication facility, equipment shelter, propane generator and tank to be located at 750 Westbrook Road, Block 4701; Lot 61.
3. Notice from the NJDEP, dated December 20, 2012, regarding Braemar [at West Milford LLC]-Greene Valley Estates, Wooley Road, Block 10001; Lots 14, 19, 20, 23, advising that the proposed subdivision remains “Exempt” under the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act, and is “Consistent” with the Northeast Water Quality Management Plan.

NJ DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

1. Notice dated December 14, 2012 from the NJDEP to Bald Eagle Village regarding the Pettet Pond Dam, NJDEP Dam File No. 22-293, finding the Operation and Maintenance Manual for the low hazard dam submitted to the DEP on November 19, 2012 to be acceptable, and advising that the next inspection is due in 2015.
2. Notice dated December 10, 2012 from the NJDEP to Forest Hill Park Homeowners Association regarding the Forest Hill Park Dam, NJDEP File No. 22-51, advising that a review of the inspection report and their existing records finds the dam to be in Satisfactory condition with minor repairs and maintenance needed, concurring with the findings of the report. All repairs and maintenance tasks are required to be completed by December 31, 2012, and regular inspection is required every two years for Class II dams.
3. No Further Action and Covenant Not To Sue Notification received from the NJDEP, dated November 28, 2012, regarding 60 Upper High Crest Drive, Block 13103; Lot 19, for the removal of one 550 gallon #2 Heating Oil UGST.
4. Extension of an Authorization for Freshwater Wetlands GP # 6 Water Quality Certificate and Waiver of Transition Area for Access received from the NJDEP, dated December 5, 2012, for Environmental Construction regarding Inwood Road, Block 12110; Lot 5.03 for the proposed construction of a single family home, with disturbance of 0.183 of an acre of isolated intermediate resource value wetlands.
5. Extension of an Authorization for Freshwater Wetlands GP # 6 Water Quality Certificate and Waiver of Transition Area for Access received from the NJDEP, dated December 5, 2012, for Environmental Construction regarding Inwood Road, Block 12110; Lot 3.01 for the proposed construction of a single family home, with disturbance of 0.006 of an acre of isolated intermediate resource value wetlands.
6. Authorization for a GP 25 dated December 4, 2012 received from the NJDEP regarding replacement of a malfunctioning septic system at 11 Bracken Road, Block 12102; Lot 7.

7. Notice of an application being submitted to the NJDEP by Careaga Engineering Inc for Surjit Singh, dated December 14, 2012, for a Freshwater Wetlands Letter of Interpretation (LOI) regarding the removal of an existing structure and construction of a new convenience store and septic system at Block 703; Lot 3, 555 Warwick Tpk, Hewitt, NJ.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Notification dated December 6, 2012 received from the Passaic County Planning Board regarding Inserra/West Milford - Shop Rite, 25 Marshall Hill Road, Block 6303; Lot 15 & 16, advising that approval of their site plan is withheld pending receipt of revised plans for numerous curbing, sign, pavement, and striping items, copy of a filed sidewalk easement between West Milford and Inserra to replace the 2009 draft, confirmation that the Highlands Determination is still valid, and right of way access permit.

2. HEPSCD notification, dated November 27, 2012, received for Inserra/West Milford–Shop Rite Expansion, Block 6303; Lots 15 & 16, advising that the revisions to the soil erosion and sediment control plan for the revised building areas meets the standards and the plan remains certified and valid through December 31, 2014.

3. Notice from ANJEC requesting a resolution of support for the Keep It Green coalition regarding their efforts for establishment of a dedicated source of state funding for open space.

4. Notice from ANJEC regarding Capital Day to be held on January 11, 2013 at 9:30 – 12:30 at the State House Annex, Trenton, NJ.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Doris Aaronson, Bearfort Road, commented about the phosphorous entering the lakes and streams from the sewer treatment plants, and the Commission reminded her that she had planned to attend a past MUA meeting as a Health Board member to address the matter; Chairman Sangle advised that this was not within the purview of the Environmental Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at **8:57 p.m.** on a motion by Timothy Dalton and a second by Douglas Ott.

Approved: May 6, 2013

Respectfully submitted,

Tonya E. Cubby, Secretary