

**Township of West Milford  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

**MARCH 1, 2010**

The regular meeting of the Environmental Commission of the Township of West Milford was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Chairman Stephen Sangle, followed by a reading of the Legal Notice.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Andrew Abdul, Gillian Hemstead (7:37), Douglas Ott, Bernie Stapleton, David Watson-Hallowell, Alternate Gary Oppenheimer, Chairman Stephen Sangle.  
Absent: Timothy Metcalf, Alternate Maryellen Gabay.

Chairman Sangle requested Gary Oppenheimer to sit in for absent Commission member Tim Metcalf.

**APPLICATIONS** – None.

**TELECOMMUNICATION APPLICATIONS** - None.

**GRANT MANAGEMENT AND STATUS REVIEW**

**2004 Greenwood Lake 319H Grant and 2007 Stormwater Implementation 319H Grant:** No update at this time.

**Streetscape Grant:** No report or update.

**Urban Forestry Grants:** No report or update.

**ON GOING BUSINESS**

**Community Forestry Plan:** No report or update.

**Lakes Committee:** Andy Abdul reported that he did not attend the last Lakes Committee meeting but heard that the Township Planner had made a presentation at that meeting. Doug Ott reported that the West Milford Lakes had made a presentation to the Lakes Committee and they seem to be using all avenues to get support for their plans, including attempting to include Tennessee Gas Pipeline in their project.

**Open Space:** Noting new to report at this time.

**Renewable Energy Subcommittee:** Bernie Stapleton reported that he reviewed the Wayne Wind Energy Ordinance and noted that it was very wordy.

**Environmental Contamination Issues:** Bernie Stapleton spoke to the Health Officer and there were two items of note on the agenda, one in particular was SB Petroleum, the Old School House Deli that was being addressed by the proper authorities. There was some discussion about the drinking water not being acceptable and concern was expressed about surrounding properties. The Chairman commented that he read in the newspapers that the owner of a contaminated site on Greenwood Lake Turnpike was taking the case to court in Paterson, and was fighting the charges because a tenant was supposedly responsible for the contamination.

**Sustainable Jersey:** David Watson-Hallowell reported that the meeting for the Green Team in February was cancelled due to snow. It will be rescheduled the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week in March. He also announced that the Green Fest will be on May 22, 2010 and invited the Commission. There would be no fees to non-profit groups unless they are doing fund raising. Gillian Hemstead noted that she will be doing a multi media presentation on the Environmental Commission.

**Trails Master Plan:** David Watson-Hallowell reported that he will prepare the information for the grant package for the trails master plan grant with ANJEC for submission by the deadline.

**Recreational Trails Grant:** Doug Ott reported that a site was chosen and the construction of the kiosk is ongoing.

**Beaver Dams at Environmental Boardwalk:** Doug Ott reported that whatever had been done is working so far to keep the beavers away. Spring is coming and we will see how effective the methods were.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Annual Report to Township Council:** Gillian Hemstead reported that the bid specs would go out soon on the 319H project, and she will prepare her report on this project to the Council, along with other grants and projects that the Commission was involved with.

**Open Space Acquisition** – A Nosenzo Pond Road property that the Township is purchasing for open space and recreation is the subject of a DEP ordered dam repair. The Commission requested that a memo be sent to the Township Administrator advising that all dam repairs and inspections be performed prior to the Township completing the purchase and taking ownership.

**Volunteer Night** – Chairman Sangle asked for a volunteer to represent the Environmental Commission. David Watson Hallowell will attend and represent the Commission.

**Source Water Protection Plan** – Gillian Hemstead reported that she had reviewed the Draft Source Water Protection Plan and was concerned that the Commission was mentioned several times in the document. She asked the Commission to review the document as she had some questions about the legislative section and the funding source. She wondered if the Commission had the time to commit to this project.

**Alternative Energy** - On another matter, Ms. Hemstead reported that Little Falls was installing a solar farm on an unused contaminated site to generate electricity for the municipality. Chairman Sangle read that solar panels might be installed on top of telephone poles. The Commission discussed solar panels and what occurs to them during heavy snows.

**Recycling** – David Watson-Hallowell reported that the new recycling coordinator, David Stires, made a presentation to Sustainable West Milford. He advised that recycling plastic can now include numbers up to 7. The Commission discussed the large amount of water bottles that end up in recycling or garbage. The Commission concurred that increased recycling education is a new project that they could concentrate on. Gary Oppenheimer commented that he would contact the recycling coordinator to do a presentation for the Commission.

### **MINUTES**

The minutes would be available for approval at the next meeting.

***The following correspondence was reviewed by the Environmental Commission and filed:***

### **HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING ACT**

1. Highlands Determination – Exempt #11 – Water Quality Management Plan Was Not Addressed – for Tennessee Gas Pipeline 300 Line Project dated February 11, 2010.
2. Letter from the Highlands Council, dated February 4, 2010, regarding the Township of West Milford Petition for Plan Conformance, advising that the petition was Administratively Complete, and following the required posting, the process of substantive review will begin.

### **DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

1. Notice dated February 16, 2010 from Tennessee Gas Pipeline of application to the NJDEP for a transition area waiver, individual freshwater wetlands permit, and an open water fill permit with regard to cutting and clearing of tress or other vegetation and installation of 15.98 miles of 30 inch diameter natural gas pipeline looping on Tennessee's existing 300 Line from Wantage Township in Sussex County to West Milford Township in Passaic County.
2. Notice dated February 4, 2010 from the NJDEP to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Paterson regarding the Nosenzo Pond Dam (NJDEP File No. 22-241), requiring the submission of further

information and revisions with respect to the proposed segmented retaining wall, drain plans, and various other issues in relation to the dam rehabilitation.

3. Notice dated February 11, 2010 from the NJDEP (Dam File No. 22-129) to Brian Douglas, 25 Charissa Court, regarding the Carpi Lake Dam 2009 Regular Inspection Report and the 2009 Compliance Schedule, advising that an acceptable time schedule for maintenance and repairs had been prepared, and the owner has been ordered to retain the services of a NJ licensed professional engineer to perform studies and prepare plans.

4. Authorization for a GP#25 dated February 8, 2010 received from the NJDEP for David & Glory Bracken for a septic repair at Block 505; Lot 21, 23 Spruce Point Trail.

Notice from Andrzej Soljan, dated 01-28-10, regarding application for a GP#25 to construct a septic alteration with no expansion or change in use.

5. Notice from the NJDEP received December 29, 2010 – No Further Action – Covenant Not To Sue – with regard to William Banta, 312 Germantown road, Block 14201; Lot 10, for the remediation of the site that contained a 550 gallon #heating oil underground storage tank.

6. Notice from the NJDEP to the Township Health Dept., dated December 29, 2010, regarding 555 Warwick Tpk., Block 703; Lot 3, SBP Petroleum, advising that the water sampled at this site was not acceptable for drinking water purposes.

7. NJDEP Permit for Flood Hazard Area Verification and Individual Permit issued December 21, 2009 to Elaine Kramer for 715 East Shore Road, Block 4301; Lot 11 regarding the demolition and reconstruction of a single family residence, associated septic system, and removal of a shed, in an area partially in the flood hazard area of Greenwood Lake.

8. Notice of application being made to the NJDEP for a GP #25 received February 4, 2010 from Dianna Blankes, 30 Madelyn Avenue, Block 6603; Lot 17 regarding a septic alteration with no expansion or change in use in a wetlands transition area and flood zone.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Volunteer of the Year ceremonies at 7:30 pm on April 21, 2010; volunteer groups requested for presentations. Request for nomination for Volunteer of the Year for 2009.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** - No one was present to address the Commission on any matter of concern.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m. on a **motion** by Bernie Stapleton and a **second** by David Watson-Hallowell.

Approved: April 5, 2010

Respectfully Submitted,

Tonya E. Cubby, Secretary