

**Township of West Milford
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

MINUTES

August 7, 2017

The August 7, 2017 Regular Meeting of the Township of West Milford Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:30 p.m. with a reading of the Legal Notice.

ROLL CALL

Present: Kathleen Fitzpatrick, James Rogers, Clinton Smith, Thomas Tamayne, Don Weise
David Ofshinsky, Chairman Stephen Sangle.

Absent: Tim Dalton, Douglas Ott.

Chairman Sangle advised that there was a quorum for this meeting.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW

CFA CUSTOM HOMES

***Environmental And Community Impact Statement**

Minor Subdivision #ZB-05-17-05

Bulk Variance

Block 9501; Lot 19.02

144 Wesley Drive; R-3 Zone

Seeking: Minor Subdivision and Bulk Variance approval for one new building lot consisting of 3.7 acres from existing 11.74 acre (homestead) lot. This property was the subject of a prior Board of Adjustment subdivision and use variance application.

The Commission reviewed the plans prepared by MCB Engineering Associates, dated 05/25/17, submitted by the applicant for a Minor Subdivision with Bulk Variance for creating one new building lot from an existing [homestead] lot. The Commission reviewed the Environmental and Community Impact Statement prepared by MCB Engineering Associates, dated May 25, 2017. Following their review, the Commission provided the comments below:

- Applicant may consider porous concrete pavers or porous macadam for the proposed driveway surface.
- Applicant should clarify that he will not be exceeding the maximum permitted impervious surface for the proposed lot.
- Applicant should clarify if a detention basin exists or is proposed on the East side of the lot based on the plan notes for a drainage easement.
- The applicant should address roof run-off to the West and whether it will be overland flow.
- Will there be any adjacent residences that will be affected by stormwater run-off.

GRANT MANAGEMENT AND STATUS REVIEW

NJDEP NNL \$620,197.00 Reforestation Grant Project: Chairman Sangle advised that there would be no report or update by the consulting Forester at this time since the project is currently under review. He did note that the NJDEP had submitted a report with a number of issues that were required to be addressed/clarified with regard to the tree planting. The Forestry Committee scheduled a meeting for August 14, 2017 to review the items and prepare an updated planting plan for submission to the State before grant funds would be released. Chairman Sangle advised that the meeting would include members of the Forestry Committee, the Environmental Commissioners, and Ron Farr, the consulting Forester on this project. The Commission Secretary will send the special meeting notice for publication and post it on the Township website. Chairman Sangle gave a brief overview of several of the issues and noted that no Fall planting will

occur until the NNL grant requirements of the State Forestry Division were addressed. The Commission discussed planting locations, tree caliper and height, as well as planting procedures and contract specifications. The Commissioners suggested that an As-Built be prepared for the tree planting locations. They requested a meeting with the DEP Forestry representative once the revised planting plan has been submitted and reviewed.

ON GOING BUSINESS

Shade Tree Committee / Community Forestry Mgt. Plan: Tim Dalton was not present at the meeting and no report was available at this time.

Lakes Committee/Greenwood Lake Bi-State Commission: Clint Smith reported that the contractor from the state of Georgia was due to begin the underwater stump removal at Greenwood Lake during the month of August.

Open Space Committee: Don Weise advised that he will review the list of properties that were recommended in the past for open space purchase and will provide the sites to the Commission Secretary to send a memo to Administration.

Environmental Contamination Issues: Tom Tamayne reported that he received numerous notifications for contamination issues from the Health Dept. in addition to the items listed on the agenda. Jim Rogers noted that there were several notices from the DEP regarding Homestead Road, and the Commissioners observed that the NJDEP has been involved in the matter.

Belchers Creek Testing Project: Chairman Sangle advised that there was no update at this time and no new testing has taken place.

Green Team–Sustainability Committee-Sustainable Jersey Re-Certification: No report was available at this time.

NEW OR CURRENT BUSINESS

Passaic County Herbicide Application – The West Milford Environmental Commission was requested by the Governing Body to review the herbicide Ranger Pro in response to Passaic County applying the product along the roadways during the summer months to control weeds/vegetation. The Commission examined the manufacturer’s specifications for Ranger Pro Herbicide, as well as information from the National Pesticide Information Center regarding *glyphosate*, one of the main ingredients in Ranger Pro. Members also independently researched the product prior to the meeting. Following discussion, the Environmental Commissioners made the following comments:

- The Commission noted that the product should only be applied according to the manufacturer’s directions and should not be applied during windy conditions which could result in off-target drift of the product
- Passaic County should verify that they are utilizing the correct equipment and application techniques when applying the product, and must follow manufacturer’s recommendations for storing the product and cleaning the equipment used for the application
- The Commission suggested that Passaic County post signage and send a notice to municipalities prior to applying the spray to alert the residents and businesses, especially when applying the herbicide near residential homes and farm animals
- The Commissioners discussed weed cutting versus spraying and commented that there was an aesthetic downside to the herbicide spraying which cause the weeds to dry up and wither along the roadside
- The Commissioners inquired whether this product was being used on “Down County” roadways, such as Hamburg Turnpike

- The Environmental Commission inquired what the rationale was for Passaic County to choose to spray this herbicide in an environmentally sensitive Highlands Preservation Area municipality when it did not appear that the roadways in the more developed municipalities in the lower region of the County were being sprayed

Autumn Lights – October 14, 2017 – Chairman Sangle advised that this program would be coordinated by Tim Dalton and Kathleen Fitzgerald, with assistance from Jim Rogers and other Commissioners at various times throughout the day of the event. Tim Dalton was to contact Rocky Hazelman, Chairman of ALF, to confirm the registration of the Commission and to get an approximate location for the tent/table.

MINUTES

The minutes from the June 26, 2017 regular meeting of the West Milford Environmental Commission were **approved** on a **motion** by Chairman Stephen Sangle and a **second** by Douglas Ott.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: The following correspondence items were reviewed by the Commission:

Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act Correspondence – None.

NJ Department of Environmental Protection Correspondence

1. No Further Action correspondence received from the NJDEP, dated July 11, 2017, for 58 Cedar Brood Road, Block 1807; Lot 17, regarding the removal of a 2000G #2 HO UST.
2. Surface Water GPA Renewal, Category: BPW-Potable Water Treatment Plant General Permit for the Pequannock Water Treatment Plant and the City of Newark received from the NJDEP, dated July 24, 2017, effective October 1, 2017, with an expiration date of September 30, 2022.
3. Flood Hazard Area Individual Permit, dated June 28, 2017, received from the NJDEP for John Saye, 743 East Shore Road, Block 4301; Lot 4, for the reconstruction of a bulkhead within the flood hazards area of Greenwood Lake.
4. NJDEP Suspected Hazardous Substance Discharge Notification, dated July 6, 2017, regarding 364 Lakeside Road, Block 3107; Lot 7 and the removal of a 550 gallon #2 H.O. UST; clean-up is pending.
5. NJDEP Suspected Hazardous Substance Discharge Notification, dated July 6, 2017, regarding 55 Somerville Road, Block 3012; Lot 6 and the removal of a 1000 gallon #2 H.O. UST; clean-up is pending.
6. NJDEP Suspected Hazardous Substance Discharge Notification, dated July 8, 2017, regarding Abram S Hewitt State Park and Block 2709; Lots 5 & 6. POET System for treatment of MTBE spill may be affecting adjacent neighbor's well.
7. NJDEP Suspected Hazardous Substance Discharge Notification, dated July 8, 2017, regarding 9 and 13 Homestead Road and Block 2709; Lots 5 & 6. Caller suspects conspiracy regarding MTBE spill.
8. NJDEP Suspected Hazardous Substance Discharge Notification, dated July 13, 2017, regarding 9 & 13 Homestead Road, Block 2709; Lots 5 & 6. Caller indicates water treatment system for MTBE spill malfunctioned and his adjacent well is affected.
9. NJDEP Suspected Hazardous Substance Discharge Notification, dated July 21, 2017, regarding 40 Stevens Road, Block 7701; Lot 19. Caller reported vacant house had approximately 3 inches of #2 H.O. in the basement. The local Health Dept. was also notified.

10. NJDEP Suspected Hazardous Substance Discharge Notification, dated July 20, 2017, regarding 1892 Macopin Road, Block 8101; Lot 42. Caller states that the weed killer being applied by the County was killing her plants.

11. No Further Action correspondence dated August 1, 2017 received from the NJDEP regarding the removal of one 275 Gallon #2 H.O. AGST at 163 Wooley Road, Block 9901; Lot 31.

12. No Further Action correspondence from the NJDEP dated July 24, 2017 regarding the removal of a 550 G #2 H.O. UST at Block 4801; Lot 18, 125 Kitchell Lake Drive.

13. NJDEP Suspected Hazardous Discharge Notice, dated August 3, 2017, regarding Block 2709; Lots 5 & 6. Caller reporting no use of water due to bacteria and contamination from neighbor's MTBE filter system.

Miscellaneous Correspondence Received/Sent

1. HEPSCD certification of a soil erosion and sediment control plan, dated June 19, 2017, received for Safargar Burnt Meadow Driveway and Grading regarding 890 Burnt Meadow Road, Block 4601; Lot 15, with certification valid for 3.5 years.

2. HEPSCD certification of a soil erosion and sediment control plan, dated June 19, 2017, received for the Township of West Milford regarding Ridge Road Section 3 Contract 4 (Alpine Ridge – Vreeland), with certification valid for 3.5 years.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Environmental Commission, the June 26, 2017 meeting was **adjourned** at 9:45 p.m. on a **motion** by Tom Tamayne and a second by Don Weise.

Approved: September 11, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

Tonya E. Cubby, Secretary