

**Township of West Milford
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

MINUTES

October 2, 2017

The October 2, 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: Tim Dalton, Clinton Smith (Alt #1), David Ofshinsky, Douglas Ott, Thomas Tamayne, Don Weise, Chairman Stephen Sangle.

Absent: James Rogers.

Chairman Stephen Sangle requested that Clint Smith sit in for Jim Rogers and advised that there was a quorum for this meeting. He further advised that there was one vacancy on the Commission for an alternate member and requested the Commissioners to contact him if they become aware of anyone who may be a good choice for appointment.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

GRANT MANAGEMENT AND STATUS REVIEW

NJDEP NNL \$620,197.00 Reforestation Grant Project: Tim Dalton reported that the Revised Reforestation Planting Plan must be submitted to the State by the end of the week. Tom Tamayne noted that he may not have received all of the documents for review. Mr. Dalton commented that he would send the most recent information out again for review by the Forestry Committee and Commission once he has reviewed all the items that are required. Following the report, Mr. Dalton and Mr. Tamayne were excused from the regular Environmental Commission meeting to retire to the Council Conference Room to continue to work on the Revised Reforestation Grant Planting Plan.

APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW

ZB-07-17-07

ANDREW MILLER

Block 3107; Lot 19

22 Somerville Road; R-2 Zone

Seeking: Bulk Variance approval from the Board of Adjustment for an accessory building location in the front yard where side and rear yard is required, and required front yard setback is 75', and 20' is proposed for the construction of a detached 40' x 24' garage in the front yard.

Subsequent to a review of the above referenced application, the Commission made the following comments:

-The Commission inquired about the intended purpose of the 300 gallon grease trap indicated on the plan, and whether it is an existing structure or proposed.

-The Commission noted that there were no leaders or gutters shown on the plan for the proposed garage.

-The Commission noted that there were seepage pits on the plan but no apparent connection to stormwater runoff from the proposed garage roof.

-The Commission commented that there did not appear to be any lighting for the proposed garage, but if installed by the applicant, it should not affect the adjacent property.

ZB-08-17-09

MICHAEL CAPRIONI

Block 3003; Lot 2

55 Glendale Road; LR Zone

Seeking: Bulk Variance approval from the Board of Adjustment for a front year setback, where 40' is required, 34.9' is existing, and 23' is proposed for a 1.5 story, 293 s.f. addition to a single family residence.

Subsequent to a review of the above referenced application, the Commission made the following comments:

-The Commission noted that no accommodations have been made on the proposed plans for gutters and leaders for stormwater runoff.

-The Commission suggested that the applicant consider installing a drywell or rain barrel for stormwater runoff.

ON GOING BUSINESS

Shade Tree Committee / Community Forestry Mgt. Plan: Due to the ongoing work on the Revised Reforestation Grant Planting Plan, Tim Dalton was not present to provide an updated report on the Shade Tree Commission/Community Forestry Management Plan.

Lakes Committee/Greenwood Lake Bi-State Commission: Clint Smith reported that he recently attended a meeting on dams with representatives from Trenton. He noted that it was very informative meeting, adding that there are 22 dams in West Milford including one for the Morris Canal.

With regard to the Greenwood Lake stump removal project, Mr. Smith reported that quite a number of the stumps have been removed from the lake. He further reported that another contractor was due to clear out some of the "floating islands" from the lake that week.

Mr. Smith advised that the Greenwood Lake Commission was doing well and their Chairman has followed up with positive public relations. He observed that Greenwood Lake seems to be cleaner now than it was in the years past, indicating that the efforts to improve the health of the lake appear to have been successful.

Open Space Committee: Don Weise reported that he spoke to a representative from the Land Conservancy and there was nothing new with regard to open space acquisition for the Schwartz property or the Weaver Road property. The Secretary advised that she received a request for information on the Schwartz property from Administration for possible consideration as an open space acquisition and would check her files for the request and forward it to Mr. Weise.

Mr. Weise reported that he recently spoke at an event at the former Weiss Ecology Center in Ringwood. The event was hosted by the Chamber of Commerce from Ringwood and West Milford and some of the representatives were from LL Bean Outdoor Outfitters, Paddleboard, and Search and Rescue. Mr. Weise was a guest speaker promoting ecotourism at the site and in the area.

Environmental Contamination Issues: Due to the ongoing work on the Revised Reforestation Planting Plan, no report was available at this time from Tom Tamayne. The Commissioners reviewed the NJDEP contamination correspondence listed on the agenda.

Belchers Creek Testing Project: Chairman Sangle advised that the Commission should renew their efforts on the Belcher Creek testing if the reforestation project fall planting cannot continue, and suggested that sampling should commence before the ice flow. Mr. Weise advised that he can test near Pinecliff Lake Dam the following week. The Commissioners who are active in the Belchers Creek Testing Project include Doug Ott, Jim Rogers, Dave Ofshinsky, and Don

Weise, with Tim Dalton attending to equipment calibration. Chairman Sangle requested that samples be taken and tests performed prior to the next Commission meeting.

Green Team–Sustainability Committee-Sustainable Jersey Re-Certification: Nothing new to report at this time. The Commission discussed the possibility of qualifying for certification in 2018.

NEW OR CURRENT BUSINESS

2018 Meeting Dates – The Commissioner’s reviewed the proposed meeting dates for 2018 and unanimously approved them for posting.

Autumn Lights – October 14, 2017 – Chairman Sangle advised that Tim Dalton will secure the tent and tables from him prior to the Autumn Lights Festival. Several of the Commissioners may be available to assist at various times during the day and were asked to contact Mr. Dalton to help coordinate the Commission’s table. The new Watershed Ambassador for Area 3, who was present at this meeting, had advised that he may be available to assist that day.

MINUTES

The minutes from the September 11, 2017 regular meeting of the West Milford Environmental Commission were **approved** on a **motion** by Dave Ofshinsky and a **second** by Doug 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. Suspected Hazardous Substance Discharge Notice, dated September 9, 2017, received from the NJDEP for 1735 Union Valley Road, Block 6902; Lot 32, regarding the removal of a 1000 gallon #2 H.O. UST, with clean-up pending.
2. No Further Action correspondence received from the NJDEP, dated September 14, 2017, regarding 55 Somerville Road, Block 3012; Lot 6, for the removal of a 1000 gallon #2 H.O. UST.
3. Public Notification dated September 14, 2017 received from Boswell Engineering regarding an application to be submitted to the NJDEP for a Flood Hazard Area General Permit #12 for the installation of a timber pedestrian truss bridge over the Cooley Brook at the Highlands Preserve, Block 2902; Lot 3, 22 Warwick Turnpike, Hewitt.
4. Notification received from Houser Engineering LLC, dated September 25, 2017, advising of an application to be made to the NJDEP regarding a Treatment Works Approval for LSK Associates at 100 Oak Ridge Road, Block 16005; Lot 13, for the construction of an individual subsurface sewage disposal system.
5. No Further Action correspondence received from the NJDEP, dated September 22, 2017, regarding 24 Macopin Terrace, Block 13202; Lot 10, for the removal of a 1000 gallon #2 H.O. UST.
6. Correspondence from HCI-Hydratechnology Consultants, on behalf of Adelo Corporation, dated September 19, 2017, advising of an ongoing investigation into groundwater contamination at 2019 Greenwood Lake Turnpike for elevated levels of contaminants of concern exceeding NJDEP and GWQS standards. Requesting access to several properties for the purpose of collecting groundwater samples, at no cost the homeowner, in order to complete delineation of the groundwater contamination. Groundwater sampling will involve the use of a drill rig for the installation of one-inch diameter PVC temporary wells; sampling will be completed with temporary wells removed and boreholes filled on the same day. The following have been notified:

Block 3603; Lot 1, Anderson, 7 Lambert Road, Hewitt, NJ 07421
Block 3603; Lot 3, Hascup/Both, 3 Lambert Road, Hewitt, NJ 07421
Block 3603; Lot 6, Ford, 5 Stainsby Road, Hewitt, NJ 07421

7. Correspondence from HCI-Hydrotechnology Consultants, on behalf of Adelo Corporation, dated September 18, 2017, advising of an ongoing investigation into groundwater contamination at 2019 Greenwood Lake Turnpike for elevated levels of contaminants of concern exceeding NJDEP and GWQS standards. Requesting access to several properties for the purpose of collecting water samples from the potable well, at no cost to the homeowner, in order to complete delineation of the groundwater contamination. A summary of the analytical results will be provided to the homeowners. The following have been notified and have responded to HCI via a Potable Well Information Form:

Block 3604; Lot 1, Mulligan, 31 & 33 Ringwood Lane, Hewitt, NJ 07421
Block 3604; Lot 2, DeMaio, 27 Ringwood Lane, Hewitt, NJ 07421
Block 3604; Lot 4, Van Riper, 21 Ringwood Lane, Hewitt, NJ 07421
Block 3604; Lot 5, Hartwig, 19 Ringwood Lane, Hewitt, NJ 07421
Block 3604; Lot 6, Thurstans, Aikey, 15 Ringwood Lane, Hewitt, NJ 07421
Block 3604; Lot 7, Freese, 13 Ringwood Lane, Hewitt, NJ 07421

Miscellaneous

1. ANJEC – Protecting NJ’s Water from Source to Tap, 10-04-17, 6 – 9, BeachHaus Brewery, Belmar, NJ.
2. ANJEC Environmental Congress, October 13, 2017, West Windsor, NJ
3. NJ Tree Foundation – Planting the Right Tree in the Right Place seminar, November 3, 2017, 8:30 – 12:30, Edgewater Park Municipal Building, Edgewater Park, NJ, RSVP required.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – The new Americorps Watershed Ambassador for Passaic County – Watershed Area 3, Adam Iaccheo, introduced himself to the Commission and offered his assistance with projects that the Commission is involved with. He gave his contact information to the Commission’s Secretary to send agendas and minutes for the remainder of his term. He will confirm with the Secretary if he is available to assist with the Autumn Lights Festival on October 14.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Environmental Commission, the October 2, 2017 regular meeting was **adjourned** at 8:30 p.m. on a **motion** by Doug Ott and a second by Clint Smith.

Approved: November 6, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

Tonya E. Cubby, Secretary