

Township of West Milford
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES

OCTOBER 4, 2010

The regular meeting of the Environmental Commission of the Township of West Milford was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Chairman Stephen Sangle, following the reading of the Legal Notice.

The Oaths of Public Office were administered to the New Appointees: Thomas Tamayne, Regular Member, Gary Oppenheimer, Regular Member, Lucas Slott, Alternate #2 Member

ROLL CALL: **Present:** Andrew Abdul (7:43), Gillian Hemstead, Douglas Ott (7:53), Gary Oppenheimer, Thomas Tamayne, Alternate Lucas Slott and Chairman Stephen Sangle.
Absent: Timothy Metcalf, Maryellen Gabay.

Chairman Sangle congratulated the new members on their appointments.

PRESENTATIONS

ANJEC - Trails Master Plan “Kick-Off Meeting”: George White, White Environmental Services and Kerry Miller of ANJEC were present to address the Commission regarding this grant project. Ms. Miller noted that ANJEC is a support organization for the Environmental Commission, and that for the past nine years the Geraldine Dodge Foundation has provided grants in the form of smart growth grants, with over \$1.5 million awarded to over 200 projects. She noted that many towns, including West Milford, are repeat awardees. She also noted the terrific work on the part of the Township and Commission for a recent grant project, the West Milford Lakes Dam Remediation Concepts. She distributed copies of the grant agreement for the latest grant project – a Trails Master Plan. She noted that a quarterly report is required and Kevin Boyle, Township Administrator, will be the grant administrator who will work with the Commission and George White of White Environmental Services. She will provide Mr. Boyle with a reporting form. Ms. Miller advised that outreach was very important in grant projects, but that West Milford was very good at this. She also brought packets of trails programs from several other towns that included trails plans. Chairman Sangle advised that the NY/NJ Trails Conference had trails maps and that this project would try not to duplicate their work, but rather supplement it. Ms. Miller asked for updated contact information for the Commission. Bob Jonas noted that this project would connect trails already established with trails to schools, town center, etc. He also advised that the Trails Conference has a trails map set that he would make available. Chairman Sangle commented that he would sponsor the sale of trails maps at the Autumn Lights Festival.

George White, consultant from White Environmental Services, was present to review the scope of the Trails Master Plan project. He noted that the proposal requires four study meetings, a database of GIS data for trails that he has begun already, and then a review of the constraints, wetlands, and alternative routes. Goals and Objectives would be established, as well as public input, field meetings, a final presentation for the public, and an executive summary of the Trails Master Plan. He reviewed several other matters and noted that a final draft is due by May 31, 2011. Chairman Sangle asked Doug Ott to be the liaison for this project. Mr. White noted that a Study Committee must be formed. A Commissioner inquired whether this plan would be for motorized and non-motorized vehicles too, and Mr. White replied that it was up to the Commission. It was suggested that the Commission find a diplomatic way to notify the public that motorized vehicles are not included. This will be discussed further by the Commission as the project continues. Mr. White will contact the Township for updated mapping that had been completed by Rob Sparkes. Following the presentation, the Commission thanked Ms. Miller and Mr. White for attending the meeting and ANJEC for their assistance over the years.

APPLICATIONS

WOJCEICH CZYKIER

Major Soil Removal/Fill #PB-07-10-08

Block 9406; Lot 45

27 Weedon Drive; R-3 Zone

Seeking: Major Soil Removal/Fill Permit to import 2131 cubic yards of soil for re-grading of subject site.

The Commission carefully reviewed the Soil Movement Permit application by Wocheich Czykier. Following review, the Commission had the following comments:

- The Commission inquired about the source of the soil to be brought in.
- The Commission expressed concern about any possible adverse effects on adjacent property owners as a result of the project.
- The Commission noted that the proposed site work attempts to address runoff and drainage issues.
- The Commission suggested that additional vegetation be planted along the wall to buffer the site from the neighboring property owners.
- The Commission advised that erosion precautions should be taken by the applicant and contractor.

TELECOMMUNICATION APPLICATIONS - None.

GRANT MANAGEMENT AND STATUS REVIEW

2004 Greenwood Lake 319H Grant and 2007 Stormwater Implementation 319H Grant:

The Secretary was requested by the Commission to inquire about the bid status of this project from the Township Clerk's Office.

Streetscape Grant: No update at this time.

Recreational Trails Signage Grant: Bob Jonas was present to report to the Commission on the project's status. He advised that two additional kiosks were constructed since his last report, one by Clinton Road, and that a total of eleven sites are now planned for construction of the kiosks, but the installation was taking longer than initially anticipated. Mr. Jonas reported that the first kiosk has been extremely well received. He noted that the panels are composed of a flexible lamination, but a poly glass cover is proposed due to possible deterioration by exposure to the elements. He also commented that a walkway was built so that visitors can see the back of the panel, and that the project is going very well.

ON GOING BUSINESS

Sustainable Jersey - Sustainable West Milford – Green Team: Chairman Sangle advised that a resolution had been adopted by the Township Council to establish a Green Team (Resolution #2010-331). The Commission reviewed the resolution and on a motion from the Chairman and a second by Gary Oppenheimer, a Sustainable Subcommittee of the Environmental Commission was formed with Renee Alessio representing the Green Team, Gary Oppenheimer as the liaison who will report back to the Commission regarding Green Team meetings, and Chairman Sangle. Renee Alessio will apprise the Commission of any special projects, the Commission will discuss the matters, and then advise the Council of its determination on a given matter. Renee Alessio thanked Commissioner Gillian Hemstead for her assistance in customizing the language of the resolution so that it was applicable for West Milford. Chairman Sangle noted that the Township Council held discussions with the Commission in an attempt to resolve any issues that were in question, and with combined efforts of the Council and the Commission, the Green Team was established for the Township. Chairman Sangle requested that someone from the Sustainable West Milford or the Green Team be present at Autumn Lights to assist Gillian Hemstead with the Commission's public outreach. Luke Slott advised that some students from the High School Green Team will assist. Gillian Hemstead encouraged the

newly formed Green Team to be ambitious and to address matters that are not only for Sustainable Jersey Certification, but those that would benefit West Milford.

Lakes Committee: Andy Abdul distributed copies of minutes from the Lakes Committee. He noted that the Lakes Committee members received copies of licensed commercial fertilizers, septic pumpers and water testing services. He reported that there was a company in Franklin with modern septic systems, and the Lakes Committee will be attending the presentation on October 30, 2010. The Environmental Commission was invited to attend with the Lakes Committee; Mr. Abdul planned to attend. Mr. Abdul also reported that Acting Police Chief Gene Chiosi was at the Lakes Committee meeting to address ATV use on and around the lakes, and he advised the Committee that local police cannot chase down the perpetrators. The major problem noted was use vehicles on ice, including snowmobiles and ATVs, with unlicensed and non-helmeted operators.

Open Space Subcommittee: Chairman Sangle advised that a meeting will be held with the Administrator and other staff before November. He also advised that there were no new acquisitions planned for open space at this time. He will have an update at the next Commission meeting.

Environmental Contamination Issues: Doug Ott reported that he went to the Health Dept. for an update on the Aiello strip mall contamination issue and advised that nothing is being done at this time following a court case that was held up on a technicality. He stressed the need for updated reports from the Health Officer William Wallace. Chairman Sangle advised that he would contact Mr. Wallace.

Beaver Dam at Environmental Boardwalk: It was reported by Bob Jonas and Estelle Andersen that the dam has been dismantled several times in the past month, but rebuilt each time by the beaver. They shared photos with the Commission on the damage to the surrounding trees and the boardwalk. The Commission discussed the boardwalk project with the new members. Thomas Tamayne suggested a product that is used by Adirondack parks, and the Chairman noted that if the boardwalk were a floatable device, it would raise with the water.

NEW BUSINESS

Annual Report to Township Council: The report has now been postponed until after November 2010 when the bids for the 319h grant are received.

ALF – Autumn Lights Festival – The date for the Autumn Lights Festival is October 9, 2010 and a table has been reserved for the Commission, to be shared by the Recycling Coordinator.

New Jersey Watershed Ambassador – Chairman Sangle reported that Allison Petrych is the new Watershed Ambassador for West Milford. She will make a presentation at our next meeting in November.

MINUTES

Minutes of the July 12, 2010 Regular Meeting of the West Milford Environmental Commission were **approved** on a **motion** by Douglas Ott and a **second** by Chairman Stephen Sangle. The minutes for August and September 2010 were held until the following meeting.

The following items were reviewed by the Commission and filed:

HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING ACT

1. Highlands Act - Exemption # 4 – Water Quality Management Plan – Not Addressed received from the NJ DEP dated September 7, 2010 for Peter Anoll, AT&T Wireless – W-1054, Block 4601; Lot 22, Greenwood Lake Tpk, for the placement of a GPS antenna, an ice bridge, and radio equipment on an existing 124 foot monopole.
2. Notice of an application dated 09/24/10 for a Highlands Applicability Determination for Alan and Giannella Buffalino, 30 Misty Lane, Block 14301; Lot 14.01, for the construction of a single family residence, driveway, and septic on a 4.04 acre property.
3. Copy of an Application for a Highlands Applicability Determination for Lone Pine Lane/Split Rock Road, Block 5306; Lot 4.02 with Lot Disturbance Plan.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

1. Treatment Works Approval #09-0256a received from the NJ DEP, dated August 17, 2010, for Shiloh Bible Camp, 735 Burnt Meadow Road, Block 6002; Lot 47, for the replacement and operation of a treatment works facility, valid for a period of 2 years.
2. Notice from the NJ DEP dated August 31, 2010, with regard to the Nosenzo Pond Dam Repair (NJDEP File #22-241), advising that an inspection of the as-built plans, completion report and a site inspection resulted in several matters that must be addressed.
3. Notice dated September 12, 2010 for a Freshwater Wetlands Application submitted by Patrick Restaino, 108 Timber Lane; Block 14901; Lot 26, for a general permit to repair a septic system.
4. Notice from Houser Engineering, dated September 29, 2010, regarding an application for a Freshwater Wetlands Application - general permit – for repair of a septic system at 21 Grove Street, Block 16004; Lot 14.
5. Potable Well Water Analysis received from the NJ DEP, dated August 18, 2010, in the vicinity of the SBP Petroleum site at 555 Warwick Turnpike for Surjit Singh, well location 555 Warwick Tpk., Block 703; Lot 3 regarding results from July, August, September, and November 2009, and January and February 2010 testing.
6. Potable Well Water Analysis received from the NJ DEP, dated August 18, 2010, in the vicinity of the SBP Petroleum site at 555 Warwick Turnpike for Karen and Darin Coslet, well location 551 Warwick Tpk., Block 703; Lot 2 regarding results from July, August, September, and November 2009, and January and February 2010 testing.
7. No Further Action Determination with conditions received from the NJ DEP for Joseph Kildune, 24 Dockerty Hollow Road, Block 8501; Lot 16 for the removal of a 550 gallon #2 Heating Oil Underground Tank.
8. Notice of Deficiency in Remedial Investigation and Action Workplan Report received from the NJ DEP, dated August 18, 2010 for George Perone, 37 Oak Drive, Block 16302; Lot 13.
9. Notice of Deficiency in Remedial Investigation and Action Workplan Report received from the NJ DEP, dated August 17, 2010 for Gordon Onembo, 65 White Road, Block 6902; Lot 10.
10. No Further Action Determination with conditions received from the NJ DEP for Kenneth Hopkins, 60 Brook Road, Block 303; Lot 12 for the removal of a 550 gallon #2 Heating Oil Underground Tank and associated contaminated soils.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. HEPSCD Certification received for the West Milford High School Athletic Field dated 08-26-10.
2. Notice from the Borough of Wanaque of an amendment to Ordinance #2-0-06 regarding amendment to the zoning of the Borough of Wanaque Code to include said municipal parcels Block 437; Lots 1.02 and 1.03 to the Ringwood Avenue Service Business Zoning District.
3. Notice of ANJEC's 37th Annual Environmental Congress – On the Front Line, Local Environmental Action in Challenging Times, Friday, October 15, 2010 at Brookdale Community College, Lincroft, NJ, \$55.
4. Copy of a letter to Richard Slifer, dated August 23, 2010, from the Hudson Essex Passaic Soil Conservation District regarding site work being performed at Post Brook Road No., Block 10601; Lot 60.03, including soil disturbance and filling activities, without a certified soil erosion and sediment control plan.
5. Letter from the Passaic County Planning Board regarding a site plan for Greg Fitzgerald, 1892 Greenwood Lake Turnpike, Block 3705; Lot 6 and 7, advising that approval of the plan has been withheld pending receipt of additional documents.
6. Memo from the Township Clerk's Office received September 14, 2010 advising that all original Agreements and Contracts, including Grant Applications and Agreements, must be filed with the Clerk's Office.

7. Notice of a Ground Water Summit by the Passaic River Coalition, to be held October 5, 2010 at the Hanover Manor in East Hanover, NJ from 8:30 to 12:00, \$20.

8. Notice from the Township Clerk's Office of appointments to the Environmental Commission: Gary Oppenheimer from Alternate to Regular Member #2, Tom Tamayne to Regular Member #4, and Lucas Slott to Alternate Member #2.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Doris Aaronson sent information to the Commission about a Groundwater Summit on October 5, 2010 in Hanover, NJ.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was **adjourned** at 9:22 p.m. on a **motion** by Doug Ott and a **second** by Thomas Tamayne.

Approved: January 3, 2011

Respectfully Submitted,

Tonya E. Cubby, Secretary