

**Township of West Milford
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

MINUTES

December 12, 2016

The December 12, 2016 Regular Meeting of the Township of West Milford Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:35 p.m. with a reading of the Legal Notice.

ROLL CALL

Present: Tim Dalton, Douglas Ott, Jim Rogers, Alt. #1 Dave Ofshinsky, Alt. #2 Clinton Smith, Chairman Stephen Sangle.

Absent: Don Weise, Andrew Abdul, Thomas Tamayne.

Chairman Sangle requested Dave Ofshinsky and Clinton Smith to sit in for Andy Abdul and Don Weise and advised that there was a quorum for this meeting.

PRESENTATIONS - None.

GRANT MANAGEMENT AND STATUS REVIEW

NJDEP NNL \$620,197.00 Reforestation Grant Project: An update was provided by Ron Farr, Forestry Consultant, via email. He provided a list of the sites that would be planted in the spring:

Camp Hope

Bubbling Springs

CYO filed (along the lake only)

Farrell Field

Greenwood Lake Turnpike southside and limited north side planting

Apple Acres

Hillcrest Building

Wallisch Estates

Mount Laurel Field

West Milford Recreation Department (PAL Building)

Sand Cap

Teen Center

He advised that the Town Hall sites may also be included, but he needed to confirm some details with several locations near the Town Hall. He noted that the local schools may have solar panels planned for some of the planting sites, so Mr. Farr will have to review the matter with them before confirming the school planting sites for this project. He will also send an updated planting scheme for the Town Hall sites. Commissioners Jim Rogers and Doug Ott need to meet with Mr. Farr on the new library planting details. Chairman Sangle noted that the bids came in higher than anticipated, so Mr. Farr may be trying to limit his attendance at meetings to reduce his charges and may use emails for updates and reviews.

APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW

INSERRA/WEST MILFORD, LLC (SHOPRITE)

Amended Preliminary & Final Site Plan (2016-#2)

#PB-08-12-06-4

Block 6303; Lots 15 & 16

Marshall Hill Road; CC Zone

Seeking: Amended Preliminary and Final Site Plan Approval to expand the existing Shop Rite supermarket and to improve the overall shopping center including improvements to building facades and parking lot areas. The purpose of this amended application is to modify the Shop Rite building expansion as well as the front and rear building additions.

The applicant was notified that this application would be reviewed by the Commission. Subsequent to their review, the Commission noted that there were no apparent environmental issues, but they expressed the following:

- The Environmental Commission recommended that the applicant address the entrance and exits as a safety issue and suggested sliding entrance and exit doors to replace the proposed (and existing)

swinging doors to permit ingress and egress in the event of an emergency, as well as to accommodate persons with disabilities.

ON GOING BUSINESS

Shade Tree Commission: The Commission Secretary advised that she requested the Treasurer's Office to provide sufficient funds in the temporary budget for payment of the ANJEC and Shade Tree Commission dues for 2017.

Lakes Committee: Commissioner Clinton Smith reported that the Lakes Committee would meet again in March. He reported that he received information that the Upper Greenwood Lake POA received a grant/loan for \$600,000.; he would investigate to determine the source and what the money will be used for.

Greenwood Lake Bi-State Commission: Mr. Smith reported that the Bi-State Commission's main issue was the 2016 drawdown of the lake. The NJDEP had decided to stop the drawdown on January 1, 2017 due to the ongoing drought. He noted that the stump removal company had until January 1 to remove the stumps before the water begins to rise, adding that it may be a difficult to coordinate. The Commission discussed the stump removal and possible desilting and desnagging. Mr. Smith observed that much of the lake does not freeze deeply due to the sediment under the water. The Commission discussed various methods of stump removal; Mr. Smith is looking into a contact for a procedure that uses a saw to go under the water.

Open Space Committee: Chairman Sangle advised that there is nothing new to report at this time with regard to open space.

Environmental Contamination Issues: Tom Tamayne was not present and there was no report other than what was listed under correspondence.

Green Team–Sustainability Committee: Chairman Sangle advised that the former environmental commissioner, who also coordinated the Green Team, had agreed to come to a Commission meeting to provide an update and summary of the tasks involved with the Sustainable Jersey re-certification. He reported that the deadline for submission of new documents for certification was June 2017. He noted that there are a number of individuals who are working on various projects that can be included for re-certification, but this needs to be coordinated, and he was not confident at this time if it can be achieved. Following discussion, the Commission concurred that a press release to request new volunteers for the Sustainable Subcommittee should be sent to local newspapers. The Commission will review the items that are required for re-certification and will work on the ones that are achievable.

Belchers Creek Testing Project: Doug Ott reported that he and Jim Rogers have contacted Andy Abdul and advised that he has essentially moved from the Township, but would be willing to meet with some of the Commissioners to go through the testing equipment and control samples. Chairman Sangle noted that if the equipment is not working, we need to return it and get a replacement.

NEW OR CURRENT BUSINESS

2017 Meeting Dates –The meeting dates for 2017 were reconfirmed by the Commission.

Environmental Boardwalk – Return of the Beavers: The Commission suggested that a memo be sent to the Administrator and copy the DPW to request assistance with maintaining the boardwalk and addressing the beaver issue.

Highlands Greenway: Jim Rogers had nothing new to report at this time.

MINUTES

The Environmental Commission Minutes of November 7, 2016 were **unanimously approved** on a **motion** by Chairman Sangle and a **second** by Douglas Ott.

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

Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act Correspondence

1. None.

NJ Department of Environmental Protection Correspondence

1. Response Action Outcome, dated November 3, 2016, received from Synergy Environmental Inc. regarding remediation at Lakeside Amoco, 2 Lakeside Drive, Block 3509; Lot 16, with the scope of remediation including AOC 2 (E4 removed 1986), one 550 gal waste oil UST, AOC 3 (E10 removed 1996), one 550 gal waste oil UST, AOC 9 (E1/E2/E3 removed 1986), three 8,000 gal leaded-unleaded gasoline UST's, and no other areas.
2. NJDEP FWGP 18 Dam Repairs & Water Quality Certificate, Permit #1615-16-0013.1 FWW160001 dated November 14, 2016 received for Kerry Greene, 267 Wooley Road, Block 9901; Lot 27.01, regarding the permanent disturbance of 426 s.f. of freshwater wetlands, 1,831 s.f. of transition area, the temporary disturbance of 937 s.f. of freshwater wetlands, the temporary disturbance of 13,513 s.f. of transition area and the temporary disturbance of 183 s.f. of State open water for the decommissioning of an existing dam under General Permit #18. A breach control structure is being installed to meet the NJ Dam Safety Standards.
3. NJDEP Division of Water Supply & Geoscience Permit No. WCP160001, dated November 18, 2016, issued for Reflection Lakes Garden Apartments for modifications to the existing water treatment plant comprising replacement of existing three calcite filters by a soda ash chemical feed system for PH adjustment and installation of 30 L.F. of 8 inch PVC chlorine contact piping manifold to provide the required chlorine contact time at Point of Entry, as well as the distribution of water for potable purposes from said works at 117 Union Valley Road, Block 7702; Lot 9. This permit is valid for 5 years with the new chemical feed system installed and operational no later than November 23, 2017.

Miscellaneous Correspondence Received/Sent

1. HEPSCD - Hudson Essex Passaic Soil Conservation District certification of soil erosion and sediment control plan, dated November 3, 2016, regarding Westbrook Park Pool Removal and Improvement at Westbrook Road, Block 11101; Lot 1, with 0.32 acres to be disturbed on a 169 acre site.
2. HEPSCD Hudson Essex Passaic Soil Conservation District certification of soil erosion and sediment control plan, dated November 28, 2016, regarding Krempaski Sugar Maple Improvements at 59 Sugar Maple Avenue, Block 15301; Lot 1, for a SFD addition with .20 acres to be disturbed on a 1.012 acre site.
3. Hudson Essex Passaic Soil Conservation District certification of soil erosion and sediment control plan, dated November 28, 2016, regarding Silvestri Oak Ridge Garage at 370 Oak Ridge Road, Block 16307; Lot 22, for the construction of a detached garage on a site with a SFD and garage, with a disturbance of 6000 sf on property that totals less than 1 acre.
4. ANJEC Report – Autumn 2016
5. Sustainable Jersey Grant applications due February 28, 2017.
6. NY/NJ Trail – 7th Edition Sterling Forest Trails map - \$7.95.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Kathleen Fitzgerald, the NJ Watershed Ambassador, advised that Belchers Creek was one of her sites for testing and she would be happy to assist with the Belchers Creek water sampling. She would coordinate the testing the following Saturday with Doug Ott and Jim Rogers. Ms. Fitzgerald also advised that she wanted to coordinate a clean-up in the Township, and Jim Rogers advised that she contact the Beautification Committee who meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 5:30 at Town Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Environmental Commission, the December 12, 2016 meeting was **adjourned** at **9:05 p.m.** on a **motion** by Chairman Sangle and a **second** by Tim Dalton.

Approved: January 9, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

Tonya E. Cubby, Secretary