

TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES

April 3, 2006

Chairman, Stephen Sangle, called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Maryellen Gabay (Arrived late), Gillian Hemstead, Daniel Kochakji, Timothy Metcalf, Douglas Ott, Stephen Sangle, Bernie Stapleton.
Alternates: Andrew Abdul. Planning Director: William Drew. GIS Specialist: Robert Sparkes

Absent: Douglas Ott. Alternate: Irene Smith

APPLICATIONS - None

TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES

Sprint Spectrum, L. P. (UGL Fire), Use Variance #0640-0730, Preliminary & Final Site Plan #0620-0226AB, Block 1701; Lot 59, 776 Warwick Turnpike; LR Zone. Members questioned the proposed height of the tower, which would exceed the ordinance requirements. The Commission felt that the intent of the ordinance should be upheld. They noted that much thought was given in the creation of the ordinance and that it should not be continually allowed to be extended. Where do you draw the line?

MOTION made by Stephen Sangle, seconded by Daniel Kochakji, to adhere to the original ordinance and not permit an extension of the tower.

On roll call vote: Yes - Gillian Hemstead, Daniel Kochakji, Timothy Metcalf, Stephen Sangle, Bernie Stapleton, Andrew Abdul.
No - None

Jennifer Irwin, a graduate student at Rutgers, was present. Ms. Irwin is interning with the Passaic County Planning Department and was attending as an observer.

ON GOING BUSINESS

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AREA 3: No report.

ENVIRONMENTAL BOARDWALK: William Drew advised that all the materials had been delivered. The contractor would purchase the screws and be reimbursed. The DPW had been requested to clear the entry way so that the work can commence. Members to be advised when work starts.

GREENWOOD LAKE 319H GRANT: Robert Sparkes emailed a list of all grants to the members. He distributed a draft stormwater implementation plan, which is a part of the project. A letter of intent to apply for the next round of grants was sent. The project for the new grant will be based on this plan.

BELCHERS CREEK FECAL TESTING GRANT: Nothing new to report.

WEST MILFORD HIGH SCHOOL WATER MONITORING WEBSITE: Robert Sparkes spoke with person who set up web site. He and Douglas Ott to meet with Norma Bozenmeyer of the High School as to how to proceed with project.

604(B) GRANT APPLICATION: Robert Sparkes advised that the final grant amount was for \$108,217. The Council will be revising the original grant agreement to amend the scope of services to be provided. William Drew advised that the Council would be inviting a member of the Commission to discuss the scope of the grant with them. Gillian Hemstead to represent the Commission.

ANJEC 2006 PLANNING GRANTS: William Drew advised that the grant had been completed and filed with ANJEC by the deadline. The project approved by the Commission and Council was to review the West Milford Lakes project, where the dam will be breached. The focus of the study is to retain the professionals to lead discussions between the Commission and the neighborhood to determine the best adapted reuse of the drained lake. The Township requested \$7,500 from ANJEC and committed \$3,750 in cash and \$3,750 of in-kind services for this project. Princeton Hydro will provide a hydrogeologist and Les Lynn will be the wetlands biologist. A series of three public meetings between the Commission and residents is proposed. Several alternative scenarios will be identified with a final plan to be approved by the neighborhood.

NEW BUSINESS

STORMWATER QUALITY REGULATIONS: William Drew advised that the staff committee assigned by the Township Council to administer the new regulations met recently. Richard McFadden, the Township Engineer, provided an assessment of the tasks completed to date. One of those tasks was the education component, which the Commission had fulfilled. The plan has been forwarded to the County for their review. Mr. Drew noted that an ordinance had to be adopted to replace the existing ordinance.

OPEN SPACE PLAN - CANISTEAR ROAD PROPERTY: Review for open space purchase. Douglas Ott, Daniel Kochakji and Timothy Metcalf to conduct a site inspection and report to the Commission at the May meeting.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRANT: Upcoming interactive workshop with the Historic Preservation Commission, Environmental Commission, Planning Board, and Township Council. Robert Sparkes explained that the Historic Preservation

Commission had received a grant to hire an historic preservation specialist, who was going to conduct a seminar on May 13th to discuss the roles and responsibilities of the various Boards and Commissions relative to historic preservation in the Township. Mr. Sparkes encouraged all members to attend. Mr. Drew explained the relationship of the Commission to historic preservation in the Township.

MISCELLANEOUS

SEPTIC MAINTENANCE: Robert Sparkes noted that Doug Ott had emailed the members regarding a meeting of the Jefferson Lakes Association workshop, which he attended. Several handouts from the meeting relating to septic maintenance were reviewed by the Commission. It was suggested that when the Commission addressed the Council that the issue of septic maintenance and possible ordinances be discussed. The materials are also to be added to the list of brochures for distribution at the Autumn Lights Festival. Members also suggested contacting area realtors for help in informing new homeowners of the need to regularly pump their septic systems. It was further suggested that the company pumping the system be required to give the homeowner a pamphlet on proper maintenance. Mr. Sparkes advised that this was what the 604b grant was going to address. Andrew Abdul presented information from the DEP for review. Various suggestions for distributing the information to residents, such as the Township Calendar or Recycling Brochure, were discussed.

STORM DRAINS: Maryellen Gabay advised that Matt would be working on the stenciling project during his Easter vacation.

BEAUTIFICATION DAY: Dan Kochakji requested that a memo be sent to the Recycling Committee advising them of the condition of Clinton Road and asking that it be included in the cleanup project.

MINUTES

MOTION made by Gillian Hemstead, seconded by Timothy Metcalf, to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2006 regular meeting. On voice vote all eligible members voted in the affirmative.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Letter dated February 28, 2006 from Stewart Surveying & Engineering, LLC advising that Geraldine Mines is applying for Treatment Works Approval for property located on Otterhole Road, Block 10901; Lot 10.01. Noted and filed.

Notice dated March 15, 2006 advising that Neil Chiarello is applying for a Letter of Interpretation for property located at Burlington and Newton Drives, Block 12305; Lots 17.01 and 17.02. Noted and filed.

Notice dated March 13, 2006 advising that Richard Van Wolde is applying for a general permit for the installation of a subsurface sanitary disposal system on property located at 31 Setting Sun Trail, Block 12311; Lot 15. Noted and filed.

HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING ACT

The following correspondence was noted and filed:

Notices that the following applicants have applied for a Highlands Applicability Determination:

Philadelphia Church – Oak Ridge Road; Block 15901; Lot 13.

Vincent Lanza – Inwood Road; Block 12110; Lot 5.03.

Vincent Lanza – Inwood Road; Block 12110; Lot 3.01.

Determinations from the DEP regarding the following applications:

Rui Filipe – Block 14001; Lots 11 and 12. Exempt. Water Quality Management Plan – Consistent.

Shiloh Bible Camp Gymnasium – 753 Burnt Meadow Road; Block 6002; Lot 47. Notice of Technical Incompleteness.

CORRESPONDENCE

Copy of memo dated March 14, 2006 from Robert Sparkes to the Township Administrator re the 604(b) Water Quality Management Planning Grant.

Chairman requested a list of grants be sent to the Township Administrative advising him that the information might be helpful to Council members.

Notice dated March 9, 2006 from Passaic County Recycling & Natural Resource Programs re availability of grants for groups working to clean up areas along the Passaic and Pompton Rivers. Noted and filed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Marilyn Lichtenberg addressed the Board regarding work on the gazebo to be completed as part of an Eagle Scout project. Ms. Lichtenberg noted that the Rotary hoped to install a light pole for protection from vandalism and inquired if the Commission had any objections to this. Members advised that they had no objections provided that the lights did not disturb adjoining property owners. Copy of proposed plan to be submitted to Commission.

Celeste Byrne inquired about the McCann property and the Open Space Plan.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Grace R. Davis
Secretary