

TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES

June 5, 2006

In the absence of the Chairman, Douglas Ott, called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Gillian Hemstead, Daniel Kochakji, Timothy Metcalf, Douglas Ott, Bernie Stapleton. Alternates: Irene Smith, Andrew Abdul.
Planning Director: William Drew. GIS Specialist: Robert Sparkes

Absent: Maryellen Gabay, Stephen Sangle

Special Guest: Joseph Smolinski, Township Councilman

Chairman appointed the alternates to sit for absent members.

APPLICATIONS

JACK AND GERALDINE LIPARI, Amended Minor Subdivision #0610-1936, Variance #0630-0534, Block 5306; Lot 4.02, 42 Lone Pine Lane, R-4. Mr. Lipari was not present. Planning Director, William Drew, explained that this property was part of an earlier subdivision granted by the Planning Board. A conservation easement was established as a condition of that approval. The LOI on the property has expired, and the new buffer areas will impact the conservation easement. After discussion the Commission had no objection with reducing the size of the easement.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES

William Drew advised the Commission that the Board of Adjustment had denied an application for a variance to extend the height of the tower at the Apshawa Firehouse. The Board determined there was no merit to the request to elevate the facility.

ON GOING BUSINESS

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AREA 3: No report.

ENVIRONMENTAL BOARDWALK: William Davis advised he and Stephen Sangle had inspected the site and verified that the work had been completed.

Mr. Drew further advised that the Urban Forestry grant that the Commission had received for the planting of trees in the center of town had also been completed.

Trees had been planted along both sides of Ridge Road and along Union Valley Road. Any remaining funds will be put into the streetscape program proposed for the center of town.

GREENWOOD LAKE 319H GRANT: Robert Sparkes reported that copies of the Stormwater Implementation Plan were sent to the members for their review. He noted that the consultants for the grant would be invited to a future Commission meeting to do a presentation on the project. He further noted that part of the in-kind services associated with the grant was the Commission's review of this document. He also reported that the drawdown of Greenwood Lake was on again. A meeting was to be scheduled with Township residents to discuss any questions relating to this matter. Mr. Sparkes to attend next meeting of bi-state commission.

BELCHERS CREEK FECAL TESTING GRANT: Mr. Sparkes advised that his request for a six-month time extension had been granted.

WEST MILFORD HIGH SCHOOL WATER MONITORING WEBSITE: No report.

604(B) GRANT APPLICATION: Robert Sparkes noted that he and Gillian Hemstead had made a presentation to the Township Council. Ms. Hemstead reported on the meeting and the response of the Council. She suggested that it would be beneficial to advise the Council on a regular basis of the work being done by the Commission.

Robert Sparkes reported that resolution adopted by the Council needed to be amended to reflect the in-kind services to be provided. A resolution to appoint Princeton Hydro as a consultant was also to be adopted.

ANJEC 2006 PLANNING GRANTS: Review of completed and submitted grant application.

STORMWATER QUALITY REGULATIONS: William Drew noted that the Council had adopted the new Stormwater Management Ordinance. He further noted that the Planning Board was scheduled to adopt a Stormwater Management Plan as an element of the Master Plan.

OPEN SPACE PLAN - CANISTEAR ROAD PROPERTY: Discussion of properties for open space purchase and possible recommendation to Township Council. William Drew noted that the Council had appointed the Commission as the overseer of the Open Space Plan. At the last Commission meeting it was decided to have a plan prepared indicating the properties that might be appropriate for purchasing as open space. He further noted that the Planning Board had adopted the Open Space Plan as an element of the Master Plan and outlined the benefits of having adopted this plan. The Commission reviewed the plan and identified

several properties that the Commission believed should be considered by the Township Council for open space purposes.

After discussion a **MOTION** was made by Douglas Ott, seconded by Daniel Kochakji, to recommend the Township purchase conservation easements on property known as Evergreen Farms.

On roll call vote: Yes – Gillian Hemstead, Daniel Kochakji, Timothy Metcalf, Irene Smith, Douglas Ott
No - None
Abstain - Bernie Stapleton, Andrew Abdul

MOTION made by Daniel Kochakji, seconded by Bernie Stapleton, to recommend the Township purchase either conservation easements or the property known as the Greene properties.

On roll call vote: Yes – Gillian Hemstead, Daniel Kochakji, Timothy Metcalf, Bernie Stapleton, Irene Smith, Andrew Abdul, Douglas Ott.
No - None

NEW BUSINESS

ENERGY COMMITTEE: Commission appointed Timothy Metcalf as the Commission's representative to the Committee.

319(H) GRANT FOR NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION CONTROL FOR GREENWOOD LAKE: Robert Sparkes advised that the Commission had filed an "intent to apply" form for this grant and that a pre-application was held to discuss the project. He explained that the proposed project involved the installation of BMPs to reduce the nonpoint source pollutants entering Belchers Creek and Greenwood Lake. Mr. Sparkes further noted that the Greenwood Lake Commission also intended to apply for the same grant and it was suggested that the two applications be combined. The grant request was estimated to be approximately \$1,000,000. Mr. Sparkes advised that a letter of support was required from the Commission and the Council.

MOTION made by Douglas Ott, seconded by Gillian Hemstead, to support the application for a 319(h) Grant for Nonpoint Source Pollutions Control for the Greenwood Lake Watershed.

On roll call vote: Yes – Gillian Hemstead, Daniel Kochakji, Timothy Metcalf, Bernie Stapleton, Irene Smith, Andrew Abdul, Douglas Ott.
No - None

MINUTES

MOTION made by Daniel Kochakji, seconded by Douglas Ott, to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2006 regular meeting. On voice vote all eligible members voted in the affirmative.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

The following correspondence was noted and filed:

Copy of letter dated May 16, 2006 from Robert Sparkes, GIS Specialist, to the Environmental Services Program requesting a six-month time extension on the Belchers Creek Fecal Testing Grant.

Copy of letter dated May 22, 2006 from Stephen Sangle, Chairman, Environmental Commission, to the Chief of the Bureau of Freshwater fisheries, regarding a fish kill at West Milford Lake.

The above correspondence was read into the record by Robert Sparkes.

Letter dated May 11, 2006 from the Bureau of Coastal and Land Use Compliance advising that a violation issued for Block 10602; Lot 39 had been corrected.

Notice dated May 1, 2006 advising that Tim and Elizabeth McCoy are applying for a General Permit for the repair of a malfunctioning septic system for property located at 8 Jamesburg Road, Block 2313; Lot 13.

Notice dated May 3, 2006 advising that Judith Hascup is applying for a Letter of Interpretation for property located at 430 Ridge Road, Block 5401; Lot 3.

Notice dated April 21, 2006 advising that Henry Peterson is applying for a General Permit #25 for the repair of a sub-surface sanitary disposal system for property located at 77 Lake Arcadia Road, Block 12501; Lot 13.

Letter dated April 3, 2006 from the DEP advising that the application submitted by Goran Todovoric for a General Permit #25 and Transition Area for Access for property located at Block 7902; Lot 2 has been granted.

Notice dated April 28, 2006 from MAP Engineering advising that Gregorio Hernandez is applying for a General Permit #25 for the alteration to a subsurface disposal system for property located at 534 Macopin Road, Block 13401; Lots 12 and 13.

Notice dated April 13, 2006 advising that Greg Ryan is applying for a Letter of Interpretation for property located on Van Cleef Road, Block 12501; Lot 20.

Letter dated March 21, 2006 from the DEP advising that the request of Eric Hastings for a General Permit #25 and Waiver of Transition Area for Access for property located at 1541 Greenwood Lake Turnpike, Block 3906; Lot 4 has been granted.

Notice dated April 24, 2006 advising that Teresa Wallace is applying for a Letter of Interpretation for property located at 4 Wyckoff Court, Block 905; Lot 2.

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:

Mary Barrett, 2001 Clinton Road, Block 807; Lot 4

Geraldine Mines, Otterhole Road, Block 10901; Lot 10.01

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No one wished to speak.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Grace R. Davis
Secretary