

# TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES  
September 13, 2004

Chairman, Stephen Sangle, called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

## ROLL CALL

Present: Gillian Hemstead (Arrived Late), Bernie Stapleton, Stephen Sangle.  
Alternates: Irene Smith, Les Lynn. Planning Director: William Drew.  
GIS Specialist: Robert Sparkes

Absent: Maryellen Gabay, Daniel Kochakji, Timothy Metcalf, Douglas Ott.

Chairman appointed the alternates to sit for the absent members.

## MINUTES

**MOTION** made by Les Lynn, seconded by Irene Smith, to approve the minutes of the August 2, 2004 regular meeting. On voice vote all were in favor.

## APPLICATIONS

**EUGENE PRAIS, Preliminary Subdivision #0410-1961, Variance #0430-0654, De Minimis Exception**, Block 8401; Lots 22 and 23, 114 Dockerty Hollow Road; R-2 Zone. Applicant investigating what DEP permits would be required to extend the public road to provide legal access to the property from the public right-of-way. Members expressed concerns regarding disturbance to the wetlands to construct the proposed driveway. Memo to be sent to the Planning Board requesting information on the applicant's future intention for the property.

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES** – None.

## GRANTS

**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES PROGRAM (ESP) GRANT:** Storm drain inventory – Phase 2. William Drew reported that a grant had been received to continue the stormwater inlet and outfall mapping. Rob Sparkes, who is managing the program, will provide a detailed report on the project at the November meeting.

## OLD BUSINESS

**BELCHER'S CREEK:** Report from Health Department on the water quality tests that were taken at the outfalls on Belcher's Creek was discussed. Tests conducted for fecal coliform to determine if human or animal were inconclusive. Members

requested an explanation of where and how the sampling was conducted. It was recommended that the collection and interpretation be conducted by an independent environmental consulting firm. It was noted that a scientific study would be more reliable. The possibility of obtaining a grant to retain a consultant was discussed. **MOTION** made to invite Councilman Joseph Elcavage to a future meeting to discuss future testing as well as open space. All were in favor.

**WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AREA 3:** No report.

**ENVIRONMENTAL BOARDWALK:** Possibility of applying grant money for repair of facility was discussed. Members also discussed a number of methods for repairing the boardwalk and preventing future damage. Installer to be contacted as to feasibility of installing Styrofoam under the dock and what the cost would be.

**DRAFT OPEN SPACE PLAN:** Recommendation to Planning Board re open space priorities. Matter to be discussed with Councilman Elcavage at the next meeting after which a presentation will be made to the Planning Board.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**K. HOVNANIAN AT WEST MILFORD/EAGLE RIDGE:** Request to blaze hiking trail as per Planning Board Resolution No. 2003 – 24. Members suggested that a date be set for November after the leaves have fallen. Douglas Ott, Les Lynn and Steve Sangle to attend.

**SOIL FILL:** Review of memo from Township Engineer regarding fill operation conducted at 1 Andrew Court. Property close to existing stream. Members suggested a site inspection be conducted.

## **DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

The following correspondence was received and filed:

Notice dated August 3, 2004 from Northeast Environmental advising that Castle Rock Estates, LLC was applying for a General Permit #6 for property located on Union Valley Road, Block 9901; Lot 7.

Letter dated July 28, 2004 from the Bureau of Inland Regulation advising of cancellation of pending Letter of Interpretation, Statewide General Permit #10A and Transition Area Waiver –Averaging Plan submitted by WM UV Associates, LLC for property known as Block 7701; Lots 7 and 8.

Letter dated August 6, 2004 from the DEP Land Use Regulation Program in response to request of Dragan Linka Tatic for jurisdictional determination for property located on Greenwood Lake, Block 3301; Lot 8.

Notice dated September 1, 2004 advising that Bob Little is applying for a General Permit for property located at 12 Lyons Road, Block 1001; Lot 2.

Letter dated September 2, 2004 from the DEP Division of Water Quality regarding the reopening of the public comment period on a new draft Stormwater Discharge New Master General Permit – Mining and Quarrying.

Notice dated June 22, 2004 from LAN Associates advising that Shiloh Bible Camp is applying for a Letter of Interpretation/Line Verification for property located on Burnt Meadow Road, Block 6002; Lot 47.

Notice dated September 6, 2004 advising that Barbara Cox is applying for a General Permit for property located at 19 Schofield Road, Block 11501; Lot 8.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was received and filed:

Copy of letter dated July 29, 2004 from Kevin Byrnes, Township Administrator, to the NJ Division of Watershed Management providing copies of Section 319h grant – Lake Characterization and Restoration Plan for Greenwood Lake.  
Copy of *The Pequannock Post* for August 2004.

Copy of letter dated August 2, 2004 from William Drew, Planning Director, to Custom Docks Company regarding inspection of damage to the environmental boardwalk.

Copy of memo dated August 4, 2004 from Grace Davis, Commission Secretary, to Kenneth Hawkswell, Health Officer, regarding Commission's request for results of water sampling of Belchers Creek.

Memo dated August 13, 2004 from Kenneth Hawkswell, Health Officer, to Kevin Byrnes, Administrator, advising that water sampling of Belcher's Creek was scheduled for August 18, 2004.

Notice from ANJEC of 31<sup>st</sup> annual Environmental Congress to be held Friday, October 15, 2004. Topic: Beyond Home Rule – Environment through regional planning.

Letter dated August 11, 2004 from Governor James E. McGreevey regarding the signing of the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No one wished to speak.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Grace R. Davis  
Secretary