

**TEWKSBURY TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES
June 11, 2012**

The Tewksbury Township Environmental Commission met at a regular meeting on the above date in the Municipal Meeting Hall, 60 Water Street, Mountainville, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 7:31 p.m., roll call taken and a quorum established.

Present: Chairman Chris Teasdale, Tom Schroth, Joe Weber, Bruce Mackie, Matt Grobert and Mary Ace

Absent: Robert Hoffman, Mario Colitti and Glenn Likus

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

It was announced that adequate notice of the meeting had been provided by posting a copy thereof on the Municipal Building bulletin board, mailing a copy to the Hunterdon Review and the Hunterdon County Democrat, and filing with the municipal clerk, all on January 10, 2012.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Per the Commission discussion at the April 9, 2012 meeting the pledged allegiance was not recited by the Commission members.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chairman Teasdale opened the meeting up to the public. There being no one in the audience, Mr. Teasdale closed the public participation portion of the meeting.

MINUTES

The minutes of May 14, 2012 were approved by motion of Mr. Schroth and seconded by Mr. Weber. All were in favor. Mr. Grobert and Mrs. Ace abstained.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Update on E.C. Liaisons to other Boards/Committees (eg. Forestry Advisory Board, Land Use Board and Pascale Advisory Committee)

Forestry Advisory Board – Mr. Schroth explained that the children at the Old Turnpike School were testing the day of the Arbor Day celebration and couldn't attend so the Forestry Advisory Board hosted a second program at the Old Turnpike School on May 27th. The bird expert from the Audubon Society returned and gave a slightly more sophisticated presentation to the 5th and 6th graders. Also, the FAB has discussed adding an 8th grade student as a member to the Forestry Advisory Board.

Mr. Teasdale noted that there are not many ground nesting birds left because of the devastation from the deer population.

Pascale Advisory Committee – Mr. Teasdale had nothing new to report.

Land Use Board – Mr. Mackie reported that the Board heard two (2) applications at the last Board meeting, one was for a swimming pool which was approved with some conditions requiring plantings and runoff remediation and the other was for the Rothpletz family to allow for an apartment within the second floor of a newly constructed barn; the apartment was approved for use by a family member or for farm help.

He noted that he a sub-committee of the Land Use Board has been reviewing the drafts of the Highlands Ordinance and Highlands Master Plan Element.

Ms. Ace noted that the Raritan Headwaters contacted her regarding the benthic macro invertebrate testing near Vernoy in June. Mr. Grobert noted that there is stream restoration planned in that area that may impact the testing. Mr. Teasdale opined that watching the stream restoration process would be valuable to the Commission members. Mr. Grobert noted that they will be filming the entire process and offered to share the video with the Commission.

It was noted that the well testing program is scheduled for October and the Commission agreed to discuss the dates, etc. at the July meeting.

Mr. Schroth noted that the Pascale pond is getting worse with the infestation of water chestnuts. Mr. Teasdale explained that Mr. Likus was going to look into why the equipment used to rid the pond of the invasive costs so much. The Commission discussed draining the pond and then dredging it to rid the pond of the water chestnuts. Discussion ensued regarding how the pond is fed. Mrs. Ace made a motion to adopt the following resolution. The motion was seconded by Mr. Schroth

**TEWKSBURY TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
RESOLUTION NO. 12-02**

PASCALE FARM PARK POND

Whereas, The Environmental Commission requests that the Township Engineer conduct an analysis to determine the feasibility of draining the pond at Pascale Farm Park (next to 512) and removing the seed-bearing bottom sediment for purposes of eradicating invasive species (Water Chestnuts) and returning the pond to its natural state; and

Furthermore, we would request that the Township Engineer check with Melissa Almendinger of the NJ Invasive Species Strike Force regarding Best Management Practices on Water Chestnut eradication;

The foregoing is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Environmental Commission of the Township of Tewksbury at its meeting on June 11, 2012 as copied from the minutes of said meeting.

Roll Call Vote:

Those in Favor: Mary Ace, Tom Schroth, Joe Weber, Bruce Mackie and
Chris Teasdale

Those Opposed: None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Mackie made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. Mrs. Ace seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Shana L. Goodchild