

**TEWKSBURY TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES
February 11, 2013**

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 7:34 p.m., roll call taken and a quorum established.

Present: Chairman Chris Teasdale, Glenn Likus, Mario Colitti, Bruce Mackie, Mary Ace, Matt Grobert and Robert Hoffman

Absent: Joe Weber

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 15, 2013.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Those present stood and pledged allegiance to the American flag.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. 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

➤ January 14, 2013

Ms. Ace made a motion to approve the January 14, 2013 minutes. Mr. Mackie seconded the motion. All were in favor. Mr. Grobert and Mr. Hoffman abstained.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Mackie made a motion acknowledging receipt of the following items of correspondence. Ms. Ace seconded the motion. All were in favor.

- a) ANJEC Course information for Fundamentals for Effective Environmental Commissions.
- b) A letter dated January 15, 2013 from Dewberry Engineers re: Notice of application for a NJDEP Freshwater Wetlands Individual Permit for Replacement of County Bridge RT-16 (Route 523 over North Branch Rockaway Creek).
- c) ANJEC Report, Winter 2013.
- d) A letter dated January 22, 2013 from Shana Goodchild re: Appl. No. 12-16, Block 34, Lot 13.01, Newell.
- e) A letter dated January 22, 2013 from Shana Goodchild re: Appl. No. 12-15, Block 23, Lot 27, Old Turnpike Realty (O'Brien).

- f) Notice from Rutgers of a seminar on invasives and retaining our trees on Feb. 20, 2013.

Mr. Teasdale explained that both applications that were forwarded to the Environmental Commission have exterior disturbance proposed. It was the consensus of the Commission that no comment was necessary since both have no environmental issues.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Pascale Pond – Water Chestnuts (American Water Grant)

Mr. Teasdale noted that the article soliciting volunteers was published in the Times of Tewksbury and Ms. Goodchild has had four (4) people volunteer. Mr. Teasdale suggested putting another article in the Times of Tewksbury in March to which the Commission agreed. Discussion ensued on how to raise community awareness of the problem.

Mr. Teasdale noted that American Water has forwarded their grant information and he has put together the grant application along with supporting documents for the removal of the water chestnuts. He noted that the Commission applied for funding last year but was unsuccessful; the grant was prepared by Melissa Almendinger on behalf of the Environmental Commission. Mr. Teasdale explained that he contacted Princeton Hydro and they quoted \$1,300 a day to use the Truxor machine. When asked how many days it would take to rid the pond of the water chestnuts, Mr. Teasdale opined approximately 1 to 2 days. He noted that the last time the machine was used it took one (1) day. Mr. Teasdale noted that the debris was hauled away and dumped at the Raritan Headwaters Assoc. in Bedminster but they have expressed concern about doing that again as they are seeing water chestnuts in their ponds. The Commission discussed burning or composting the seed pods. Mr. Teasdale suggested adding \$500 to the grant application for disposal. Mr. Colitti agreed to contact Melissa Almendinger to get some ideas about disposal. The Commission granted Mr. Teasdale permission to make a few adjustments to the grant application and submit it for consideration.

- Solar Siting and Sustainable Land Use – discuss ANJEC White Paper distributed in November (continued from January).

Mr. Teasdale noted that the Commission left off at the discussion of the ordinance essentials. He read into the record portions of the ANJEC white paper regarding ordinance content, installation, etc. Mr. Teasdale noted that a few years ago at the Land Rally they explained that it is better to permit these uses in a particular area or with conditions rather than to prohibit them totally. Mr. Teasdale offered to contact Ms. Goodchild to arrange a discussion with the Land Use Board.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Colitti made a motion to adjourn at 8:38 p.m. Mr. Grobert seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Shana L. Goodchild