

**TEWKSBURY TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES
April 8, 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 7:35 p.m., roll call taken and a quorum established.

Present: Chairman Chris Teasdale, Glenn Likus, Joe Weber, Mary Ace, Glenn Stein, Alt. #1 and Matt Grobert, Alt. #2

Absent: Bruce Mackie, Mario Colitti and Robert Hoffman

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Chairman Teasdale 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

➤ February 11, 2013

Ms. Ace made a motion to approve the February 11, 2013 minutes. Mr. Grobert seconded the motion. All were in favor. Mr. Weber abstained.

➤ March 11, 2013

Mr. Stein made a motion to approve the March 11, 2013 minutes. Mr. Teasdale seconded the motion. All were in favor. Mr. Grobert and Mr. Weber abstained.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Grobert made a motion acknowledging receipt of the following items of correspondence. Mr. Likus seconded the motion. All were in favor.

- a) An invitation from the Raritan Headwaters Assoc. to the Eleventh Annual Ride for the River fundraiser on May 18, 2013.
- b) A letter dated April 3, 2013 from Shana Goodchild re: Appl. No. 13-06, Block 51, Lot 80.08, Use and Side Yard Setback Variances.
- c) A letter dated April 3, 2013 from Shana Goodchild re: Appl. No. 13-04, Block 6.03, Lot 3, Impervious Coverage and Side Yard Setback Variances.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Solar Siting and Sustainable Land Use – update on presentation to Land Use Board

Mr. Teasdale explained that he attended the April 3, 2013 Township Committee meeting and took them through the ANJEC white paper. The Land Use Board passed a motion to request the Township Committee to authorize the development of a solar ordinance.

- Pascale Pond – Water Chestnuts (American Water Grant)

Mr. Teasdale noted that there has been no news on the American Water Grant application. He offered to run another article in the Times of Tewksbury for May reminding residents of the clean-up efforts and the need for volunteers. When asked about the date of the harvest, Mr. Teasdale reported June/July. The Commission discussed funding and suggested booking the harvester as soon as funding is available.

Mr. Teasdale noted that the Commission could also apply to ANJEC for a small grant however it will require 80 volunteer hours. After a lengthy discussion regarding the difficulty coordinating the volunteer hours, Mr. Teasdale agreed to send the grant application to ANJEC before the end of the week.

The Commission reviewed Appl. No. 13-04, Pentz, Block 6.03, Lot 3 for side yard setback and impervious coverage variances for a proposed pool project. Mr. Teasdale expressed concern with the density of the neighborhood. Ms. Ace opined that the design is elaborate and Mr. Likus commented that it didn't appear as if any of the zoning restrictions were taken into consideration when the project was designed. The consensus of the Commission was that there is plenty of opportunity to reduce impervious coverage. Mr. Teasdale agreed to write a memo to the Land Use Board recommending that the applicant reduce the coverage proposed. All agreed.

Mr. Robert Hoffman arrived at this time (8:12 p.m.).

The Commission reviewed Appl. No. 13-06, Bligh, Block 51, Lot 80.08 for a use and side yard setback variance. The applicant wishes to convert one of the existing barns into a residence; together with the existing cottage on the property a use variance is required for a second dwelling. The consensus of the Commission was to support the application for the side yard setback and use variance. Mr. Hoffman noted that due to the configuration of the lot it is not apparent that the cottage and the proposed residence are on the same lot. When asked about the lot coverage, Mr. Teasdale noted that the application claims that they are maintaining the lot coverage that was approved at the time of the subdivision by the NJ Conservation Foundation (6.8% coverage). Mr. Grobert offered to prepare the memo to the Land Use Board expressing the Commission's comments. Mr. Teasdale suggested Mr. Grobert include a comment about using best engineering practices when pumping up hill for the septic system and that efforts should be made to not disturb the water source under the barn.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Grobert made a motion to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. Mr.

Weber seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Shana L. Goodchild