

**TEWKSBURY TOWNSHIP  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES  
September 9, 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 7:38 p.m., roll call taken and a quorum established.

Present: Chairman Chris Teasdale, Mario Colitti, Mary Ace, Bruce Mackie, Glenn Likus, Glenn Stein, Alt. #1 and Matt Grobert, Alt. #2.

Absent: Robert Hoffman and Joe Weber.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT**

Chris 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**

➤ July 8, 2013

Mr. Stein made a motion to approve the July 8, 2013 minutes. Mr. Mackie seconded the motion. All were in favor. Mr. Colitti, Mr. Likus and Mr. Grobert abstained.

➤ August 12, 2013

Mr. Mackie made a motion to approve the August 12, 2013 minutes. Ms. Ace seconded the motion. All were in favor. Mr. Teasdale, Mr. Likus and Mr. Stein abstained.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

➤ Pascale Pond – Water Chestnut Harvesting – (see pond management proposal)

Mr. Teasdale explained that he was asked to do a summary report for the \$1,500 ANJEC grant that the Commission received for the eradication of the water chestnuts. The report included a synopsis of what was done and the volunteers that helped; approximately 60% of the pond was cleared. Mr. Teasdale noted that he took photos and movies and he is completing an imovie. ANJEC responded to the report and congratulated the Commission on a job well done and were happy with all the documentation. When asked about the removal of the debris from the pond bank, Mr. Likus explained that he had a small machine with a pitch fork bucket and loaded the piles into 3 mason dump truck loads which were then hauled to the Johnson compost facility at Cedar Lane Farm. The

compost heats and kills the pods which will then be made into black compost in six (6) months to be used on the farm. When asked the number of workers helping, Mr. Likus explained that he had three (3) men working for approximately half a day (4 hours each).

Mr. Colitti noted that he tried to recruit some volunteers after the eradication to help scoop up some of the floating pods. Mr. Teasdale explained that the vegetation from the water chestnuts is dying but the pods are still floating on the surface. Mr. Colitti noted that the pods can be collected using a net.

Mr. Teasdale noted that unless the Commission finds funding to use the Truxor machine for 2 days for at least five (5) years it will be impossible to stay ahead of the infestation. The Commission discussed the pond management proposal provided by Black Lagoon Pond Management for treatment of the Pascale and Whittemore Ponds. Mr. Teasdale opined that the algae treatment is unnecessary at Pascale and is not familiar enough with Whittemore pond to comment. Mr. Grobert offered to call Black Lagoon Pond Management and discuss the number of treatments that they intend in the contract and how many years they believe will be necessary. Mr. Teasdale offered to send a letter to Jess Landon to support the idea and suggested that the Commission mention that there has not been an algae problem at Pascale so it may not need to be treated. Mr. Colitti offered to stop by Whittemore and evaluate the pond and report back.

➤ Update on Annual Community Water Testing Program

Mr. Teasdale noted that the last article in the Times of Tewksbury had an error in the dates. He offered to put another blurb in the Times of Tewksbury. Mr. Mackie noted that volunteers are needed to help on the mornings of the test returns from 7 a.m. to 8:30 a.m., noting that he will be volunteering both days. Ms. Ace and Mr. Grobert offered to help if they are available.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- a) A letter dated August 22, 2013 from Shana Goodchild re: Appl. No. 13-01, McCatharn, Block 16, Lot 25.03.

The Commission believed the relief required is more of a legal question than environmental and deferred to the Land Use Board Attorney and therefore no comment is necessary.

- b) A letter dated July 24, 2013 from Shana Goodchild re: Appl. No. 12-13, Biedron, Block 31, Lot 12.

Mr. Stein and Mr. Likus recused themselves from the discussion regarding the Biedron application.

The Commission determined that the impact was so minimal that no comment was required.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

When asked if any recent correspondence was received from Mr. Horton, Mr. Teasdale noted that Mr. Horton opines that a water retention basin should be constructed where the Lamington River and the Rockaway Creek meet which is not in Tewksbury Township.

Mr. Mackie reported on recent Land Use Board applications and noted that the comments from the Environmental Commission were helpful and prompted some give back by the applicant.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mr. Mackie made a motion to adjourn at 8:39 p.m. Mr. Likus seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Shana L. Goodchild