

**TEWKSBURY TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES
March 12, 2018**

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: Chris Teasdale, Chairman, Bruce Mackie, Matt Grobert, Geoffrey Connor, Mario Colitti arrived at 7:47 p.m. and Hope Kaufman, Alt. #1

Absent: Mary Ace, Glenn Likus and Michael Schlaefer, Alt. #2.

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 25, 2018.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Those present stood and pledged allegiance to the American flag.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Teasdale announced that Township resident Basil Hone had passed away peacefully at home. He noted that Mary Ace offered to draft a letter to Basil's wife, Rilda Hone, expressing the Commission's deep gratitude for all the work that Basil did in the community. The drafting of the letter was unanimously approved by the Commission.

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

MINUTES

➤ February 12, 2018

Mr. Teasdale had a minor correction on page two (2). Mrs. Kaufman made a motion to approve the minutes of February 12, 2018 as amended by Mr. Teasdale. Mr. Mackie seconded the motion. All were in favor. Mr. Grobert abstained.

CORRESPONDENCE

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

- a) A copy of a letter dated February 23, 2018 from Gene Buczynski re: Cold Brook Road Culvert Stormwater Management concerns – response to RT Environmental Services Report.

- b) A copy of a letter and report from RT Environmental Services re: Stormwater Management concerns, Oldwick, NJ.
- c) Information from ANJEC re: 2018 ANJEC grants for Open Space Stewardship projects.

Mr. Mackie noted that the Land Use Board held the public hearing for the project on the land adjacent to Mrs. Dillon's property (items a) and b). He noted that the application did not propose any new disturbance as the caretaker's cottage will be constructed within an existing barn. In the future, a new residence will be constructed on the high point of the property and at that time the property owner will be required to submit a Grading and Surface Water Management Plan to address storm water runoff. Mr. Mackie explained that the Land Use Board didn't get into the specifics of Mrs. Dillon's issue other than to acknowledge that there is a problem. When asked if the subdivision was granted, Mr. Mackie responded in the positive. When asked if the Commission's letter was considered, Mr. Mackie responded in the positive but opined that the Land Use Board felt that the concerns raised are broader than just the Schwab property and because a conforming subdivision was proposed it was difficult to deny the application.

Mr. Colitti arrived at this time.

Discussion ensued regarding the ability for the Township to remove debris and clean out the stream on private property to increase the ability of the storm water to flow away from the Dillon property. Mr. Teasdale was of the opinion that the Township did not have that jurisdiction; Mrs. Kaufman opined that it could be done if there is a public nuisance. The Commission discussed how best the stream could be cleaned and made functional again. Because the Commission is advisory in nature Mr. Teasdale offered to draft a memo to the Land Use Board regarding Best Management Practices to clean out the drainage swale. The memo will also note that the Commission agrees with some of the recommendations in the Township Engineer's letter and RT Environmental Services memo.

The Commission discussed the ANJEC grant (item c) and Mrs. Kaufman noted that she forwarded it to Dawn Pogosaew of the Tewksbury Woman's Club and to Carolyn Thow at Whittemore and both would be submitting grant applications by the deadline. Mrs. Kaufman noted that Mrs. Pogosaew applied for the grant last year but wasn't selected. She opined that if the Commission wrote a letter about all of Mrs. Pogosaew's hard work it might help the application to which the Commission agreed.

Mr. Teasdale noted that Mrs. Pogosaew is continuing to work on the mowing plan for Pascale Farm Park and mentioned that per Ms. Goodchild the mowing plan would not commence until 2019 because 2018 mowing contracts have already been awarded.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Updates – Land Use Board

Other than what was reported above, Mr. Mackie had nothing new to report.

- Pascale Pond – Water Chestnuts

Mr. Teasdale had nothing new to report.

- Raritan Headwaters Association's (RHA) 28th Annual Stream Clean Up on **Saturday, April 14, 2018, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

Mr. Teasdale offered to send another blurb to the Times of Tewksbury to remind residents of the stream clean up. Mr. Colitti offered to pick up all the hand outs, etc. at the meeting the night before the event. He noted that he has been told by Raritan Headwaters that Tewksbury will have 100 people from various civic organizations to contribute to the Tewksbury site. Based on last year's difficulty gaining access to some of the trash, Mr. Teasdale recommended bringing cutters to lop off the barberry and invasive growth.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Mackie made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. Mr. Connor seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Shana L. Goodchild
Land Use Administrator