

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

P. O. Box 1106 523 Egg Harbor Road

Turnersville, New Jersey 08012

856/589.0520, Ext. 232

wtec@twp.washington.nj.us

(Approved at May 5, 2011 Meeting)

minutes of April 7, 2011 Meeting

Meeting was called to order by Leon Lakritz. In attendance were Vicky Binetti, Harry Larzelere, Lola Pellegrino, Mark Phillips, Daniel Morley, Russ Price, Rich Fini, Ann Culkin, Anne Hastings, and guest Daniel Aupperle from Rowan University. Minutes of the March 3, 2011 meeting were approved as presented. The motion was made by Russ Price and seconded by Vicky Binetti; Harry Larzelere abstained.

Treasurer's Report

Harry Larzelere, Treasurer, reported a temporary budget balance of \$800.

Old Business

Earth Day 2011

Anne Hastings reviewed assignments for Earth Day and distributed lists of volunteers and tasks. To help promote the event, she held interviews with the Sun and the Gloucester County Times newspapers. An announcement will run on the Gloucester County Federal Bank electronic sign on Egg Harbor & Greentree Roads. Donations of a full sheet cake have been made by Aversa's Bakery and Classic Cake for the noontime ceremony. Earth Day banners have been hung near the Old Stone House

as well as near Verchio's Farm Market on Fries Mill Road. Additionally an e-mail is being sent to the parents of Washington Township students on Monday via Global Connect. The electronic notice to parents is in lieu of paper flyers distributed in previous years. Anne Hastings also asked members to provide items we can display at Earth Day which highlight "reuse, repurpose and recycle," the theme of this year's event.

Recycling

Vicky Binetti had no new report.

Wellhead Protection

Vicky Binetti reported that the Delaware River Basin Forum was held on March 10 at WHYY in Philadelphia. More than 400 participants appeared in person at six locations. Mayor Matthew Lyons participated and gave an excellent presentation on our Wellhead Protection Ordinance.

Planning Calendar

Leon Lakritz had no new programs to add.

Township Clean Up Day

No report. This event is held in October, and the planning stage has not begun.

Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement

No report.

Guest Lectures/Seminars

No definite plans have been made, but we are contemplating a rain barrel workshop given by the AmeriCorps Watershed Ambassador of Rutgers Cooperative Extension Service Program.

Stream Sampling

Leon Lakritz had no new report on stream sampling. However, he announced that he is working with Bert Lopez from Atlantic Electric on a project to have school students identify broken street lights that remain on 24 hours a day.

Goals for 2012

A suggestion was made by Vicky Binetti that we consider becoming a sustainable community and focus on opportunities to conserve energy and recycling.

New Business

Planning and Zoning Boards

Rich Fini reported:

Planning Board – April 5, 2011

- Chick-Fil-A located at 565 Route 42 received preliminary and final approval. Leon Lakritz reported that Applicant agreed to build a by-pass, enlarging the driveway and will make a cash contribution to the Tree Trust Fund as compensation for not replacing trees on site.

Zoning Board – March 14, 2011

- Washington Self Storage received a use variance. They will come back to the Planning Board in May for site plan approval.
- Suters located at 317 Pine. Applicant's minor site plan was approved.

ANJEC Seminar

Vicky Binetti reported that she and Leon Lakritz attended ANJEC'S networking session between Environmental Commissions on March 29th in Franklinville. The topic, Growing Greener: Conservation by Design, discussed achieving conservation of open space through the clustering of homes in newly planned developments.

Committee Reports

Open Space

Harry Larzelere reported that Public Works has begun the project to plant 200 trees on Winchester Drive.

Council Report

Daniel Morley, our Council Liaison, proposed that the Environmental Commission and/or the Open Space Committee consider a clean up and beautification of the traffic islands on the Black Horse Pike which have esthetically deteriorated. Since this highway is under State control, the Environmental Commission agreed to look into what can be done at the State level first to clean up the area.

Correspondence

Leon Lakritz received notification that Duffield's Farm has received permission from the DEP to remove the spillway adjacent to Pitman-Downer Road to Sterling Lake.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m. on a motion made by Russ Price and seconded by Ann Culkin.

Submitted by:

/s/ Dorothy Hunter

Dorothy Hunter, Secretary

Washington Township Environmental Commission