

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

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(Approved at September 1, 2011 meeting)

Minutes of the August 4, 2011 Meeting

Meeting was called to order by Leon Lakritz. Also in attendance were Vicky Binetti, Lola Pellegrino, Chet Nawoyski, Mike Keating, Ed Andricola, Jodi Smith, Russ Price, Anne Hastings, Rich Fini, and Ann Culkin. There was no meeting in July. Minutes from the June 2011 meeting were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report

Harry Larzelere was not present tonight, and in his absence, Leon Lakritz provided the financial information. Our current budget has \$1,325 remaining. The total budget for the year is \$1,925.

Guests

E &R Properties, t/a Children of America Daycare – This project is located at 263 Blackwood-Barnsboro Road. The proposed child care center would be a corporate franchise, and Harry and Mana Patel would be landlords and facility managers. Applicant proposes the construction of a 10,000 sq. ft. daycare facility. The site is heavily wooded, and 640 trees (with diameter of 4 inches or more) would be removed. According to figures provided by the applicant, 36 trees would be required as compensation. The applicant must submit a tree removal permit application. Members discussed the recommendation that the applicant be required to perform soil testing for arsenic, lead, pesticides, and hydrocarbons

which may be present due to the salvage yard operation 200 feet from the proposed daycare building. The storm water management report indicates that soils have low permeability and are unsuitable for infiltration and the applicant will seek a waiver from stormwater ordinance requirements. Vicky Binetti suggested that the amount of stormwater generated might be reduced if the site plan preserved more vegetation and less impermeable surface. The proposed detention basin would discharge to the adjacent church property; the applicant agreed to ascertain whether the church has a private well or is served by public water. Rich Fini briefly outlined the requirements of the State Department of Children & Families in order to be in compliance with regulations. The Commission will review the tree plan and other aspects of the project at the workshop meeting on August 18, 2011. Applicant is also requesting a waiver from the Environmental Impact statement.

Old Business

Township Clean Up Day

The annual Township Clean Up Day is scheduled for October 8 (rain date October 15th). Anne Hastings asked that if anyone is interested in helping out, they should contact either herself or Ann Culkin. The Pavilion adjacent to the amphitheatre in Washington Lake Park has been reserved for the lunchtime cookout for volunteers to follow clean-up work in the morning, and Ann Culkin will confirm the reservation. The Environmental Commission has applied for a Wal-Mart Community Grant as well as a \$500 County Grant. The new Wells Fargo Bank has expressed interest to participate by sponsoring a team as well as making a donation.

Recycling Campaign/America Recycles Day

Vicky Binetti had no new report but said she would check to see what is happening with the annual America Recycles Day held in November.

Wellhead Protection

Vicky Binetti had no report. Rich Fini mentioned receiving two reports from Virtua today indicating that they are performing ground water monitoring at their ambulatory care center. He has not as yet had an opportunity to review the reports as yet.

Environmental Commission Planning Calendar

Leon Lakritz had no new events to add.

Earth Day 2012

No report.

Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement

No report

Guest Seminars/Presentations

No plans have been made as yet.

Stream Sampling

Chet Nawoyski is attempting to locate an advisor for this event.

Goals for 2012

No report.

New Business

2011 Environmental Commission Planning Board Representative

Leon Lakritz announced that Daniel Christy has been appointed as our Planning Board representative.

Planning and Zoning Boards

Rich Fini reported as follows:

Planning Board 7/5/11

- E & R Daycare (see above under "Guests")
- Smyle LLC – This is a dentist office. They have received preliminary and final approval.
- Kennedy Hospital – They wish to re-activate their heliport.

Planning Board 7/19/11 – No meeting

Planning Board 8/2/11

- EJD Associated – Site located at 480 Delsea Drive. Tree Removal application was discussed.

Zoning Board – 7/11/11

- Redeemed Christian Church of God – Site located at 229 Delsea Drive. This is a use variance to establish a daycare center. Matter was postponed.

Committee Reports

Open Space

Leon Lakritz reported that 100 trees were planted along Winchester Drive. The intent was to eliminate mowing. Residents, however, requested that the area behind the trees be mowed, and the Township has agreed to their request.

Township Council

No report.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15.

Submitted by:

/s/Dorothy Hunter

Dorothy Hunter, Secretary
Washington Township Environmental Commission