

**STILLWATER TOWNSHIP  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
May 12, 2014**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mrs. Emmetts, Mr. Szabo, Mrs. Tracey, Ms. Fobes-Jacoby, Mr. Branagan

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mrs. Fleck, Mr. Klimek, Mr. Blanchard, Mrs. Branagan

Mr. Branagan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the statement that this meeting is in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act. This was a regularly scheduled meeting of the Stillwater Township Environmental Commission. Regular meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 7:07 p.m., at the Stillwater Township Municipal Building located in Middleville, New Jersey. The flag was saluted and roll call taken.

**Appointments:** Kathy Fobes-Jacoby – Regular Member – 12/31/14  
Ian Blanchard – Alternate #1 – 12/31/14  
Sara Branagan – Alternate #2 – 12/31/15

All were sworn in prior to the meeting.

**Minutes**

Mr. Szabo made a **motion** to approve the minutes of 4/14/14, seconded by Mr. Branagan.

**Roll Call Vote:** Mrs. Emmetts, yes, Mrs. Tracey, yes, Mr. Szabo, yes, Ms. Fobes-Jacoby, yes, Mr. Branagan, yes

**Bills**

Mrs. Emmetts made a **motion** to approve the following bill, pending availability of funds, seconded by Mr. Szabo:

Secretary: \$ 198.90

ANJEC (C. Tracey – Seminar 5/31/14) \$ 20.00

**Roll Call Vote:** Mrs. Emmetts, yes, Mrs. Tracey, yes, Mr. Szabo, yes, Ms. Fobes-Jacoby, yes, Mr. Branagan, yes

**Correspondence:** None

**At this point, this portion of the meeting was opened to the public at 7:10 p.m. There being no members of the public wishing to speak, this portion of the meeting was closed 7:10 p.m.**

**Old Business**

**Paulinskill River Clean Up:** Colin Campbell, Fairview Lake YMCA

Mr. Campbell oversees a two-week summer program for ages 13-15, boys/girls; they conduct service projects and volunteer work. They have worked with the Nature Conservancy, Delaware Water Gap and Kittatinny Canoes. He is interested in having a group participate in the Paulinskill River Clean Up project. The camp this year will run from 7/6 through 7/19. There would be approximately one dozen campers and two staff members. Supervision, transportation and bag lunches would be provided and proper attire would be worn. In the past, the YMCA has been provided with a waiver form from organizations for insurance purposes and they will provide a Certificate of Insurance if necessary. Mr. Branagan asked Mr. Campbell to attend the project meeting on June 5, 2014 at 7 p.m. at the Municipal Building.

Bob Kahle, YMCA, addressed the tree removal being conducted at the camp. He met with Cliff Lunden of the Sussex County Soil Conservation District. A forester has been hired and only removal of dead or damaged trees is being done, with some harvesting for forest management purposes. Seeds will be planted in the areas where machinery has been and the USDA will replant the areas that were cleared. Mr. Kahle also met with the Zoning Officer and a plan was provided. He noted that the Camp is not dumping stumps in the area of Fiddler's Elbow.

Mr. Branagan reported on the river clean-up project, indicating team leaders will be designated and participants assigned to groups. Property owners along the river have been notified of the project. Mr. Szabo asked if a map depicting the areas of the river was available as some portions are difficult to navigate. Mr. Branagan stated the project will be divided into four sections: 1) the dam to the Connor's property; 2) the Connor's property to Saddleback Road; 3) Saddleback Road to the Roof property; and 4) the Roof property to Stonebridge Road.

The difficult areas would be accessed using kayaks and canoes.

#### **Land Conservancy/ERI - Maps:**

A public hearing on the ERI would be held on 5/21/14 at the Planning Board meeting.

#### **Sustainable Jersey (SJ):**

Ms. Fobes-Jacoby reported on the direct install, indicating three buildings including the Municipal Building, Rescue Squad and DPW were assessed. The Rescue Squad building is too new, however 50 points could be awarded for the other buildings. The Open Space and Recreation Plan was adopted by Resolution and is eligible for 10 points. The ERI is eligible for 20 points. She is also working on recycled paper purchasing and farmland preservation as additional categories. Other point items include: recycling depot, Environmental Commission, Green Team, anti-idling education project, hydroponics – innovative project at the school, starting small leading to a larger garden on the school grounds. Mr. Branagan suggested contacting Sherry DiStasi at Stillwater School. Also discussed, was the possibility of obtaining points for Mr. Branagan's free environmental shows at the school and Swartswood Lake Watershed Association projects including the Water Chestnut removal, water testing, herbicide program to control invasives, COLA membership, and trout stocking program.

**Tree Ordinance Amendment:** The ordinance was adopted by the Township Committee on 4/15/14. Mr. Branagan expressed concerns with the EC revisions not being included. He noted the Zoning Officer felt the adopted ordinance was appropriate.

**Recycling Ordinance:** Mr. Branagan spoke with Amy Schwartz and she will contact Mr. Whitehead to review the recycling list. Ms. Fobes-Jacoby stated that Mrs. Schwartz would also like to locate a display in the Municipal Building of items that can be recycled.

**Veterans Memorial Park (VMP) Recycling Receptacle:** Once the new sheds are installed at the Recycling Center, the old one will be moved to VMP and restored for recycling disposal.

**Fishing Line Receptacles:** Fishing line was collected and Mr. Branagan reported that the receptacle located across from LC Service was removed by someone and discarded. He suggested moving the receptacle near the bridge to that location. The EC agreed.

**Green Team Report:** Ms. Fobes-Jacoby reported the team is working on a flyer to be included with the July tax bill mailing. It should be finalized for review at the June meeting. Mr. Branagan would like to contribute information and Mrs. Emmetts offered to review the design layout.

**Solar Ordinance:** Mr. Branagan reported that he, Ms. Chammings and Mrs. English are working as a subcommittee of the Planning Board to develop a solar ordinance for the township. Mrs. Emmetts commented that she read wind towers are taking energy out of the wind and causing a drying effect.

#### **New Business:**

**GreenFest:** Sunday, 9/7/14 at the Fairview Lake YMCA

The GreenFest will include a bike parade, bike maintenance, TransOptions bike safety/helmet fitting, bike swap, cleat exchange, a more focused theme than last year, composting by the Historical Society,

vermiculture and an art show, as well as other exhibits. The Green Team will meet on May 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss the plans.

**At this point, this portion of the meeting was opened to the public at 8:06 p.m.**

**There being no members of the public wishing to speak, this portion of the meeting was closed at 8:06 p.m.**

**Planning Board (PB) Liaison Report:** April 2014

Mr. Branagan reported the following:

- Camp Lou Henry Hoover application for a pavilion was approved
- Solar ordinance review is continuing.
- ERI – Barbara Davis presented the ERI to the PB for their review and comment. The public hearing will be held on May 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Township Liaison Report:** Committeewoman Chamblings

- Two new sheds were installed at the Recycling Center, electric to be installed.
- The old shed is in disrepair and will have to be looked at prior to using it at VMP for recycling disposal.
- Township Engineer was at the last Township Committee meeting to discuss the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the Middleville Road project. Various trees (22) will have to be removed due to the narrow roadway and drainage issues. Ms. Chamblings asked that the trees be marked and property owners notified. The road will not be closed during the project; only one lane closure at a time.
- The township will advertise for a new Construction Official/Building Subcode.
- Bond ordinances were introduced: \$193,000 for various projects; \$221, 000 for (2) DPW dump trucks.
- DPW contract was approved.
- New Township Attorney was appointed – Richard Stein of Laddey, Clark & Ryan.

With no further business to come before the Commission, Ms. Fobes-Jacoby made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Emmetts. In a voice vote, all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kathy Wunder, Secretary