

**STILLWATER TOWNSHIP  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
July 8, 2013**

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mr. Klimek

Mrs. Fleck arrived at 7:07 p.m.

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 7:00 p.m., at the Stillwater Township Municipal Building located in Middleville, New Jersey.

The flag was saluted and roll call taken.

**Minutes**

Mrs. Emmetts made a **motion** to approve the minutes of 6/10/13, seconded by Mr. Szabo.

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

**Bills**

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

Secretary:                      \$ 195.00

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

**At this point, this portion of the meeting was opened to the public at 7: 04 p.m.**

**Suzanne Cleaver, 955A Middleville Road** expressed concerns with the barbed wire that is installed across the Paulinskill River in the area of the Grist Mill. She felt it posed a danger to those using the river as her family does for kayaking. There are no markers indicating the wire is there and it may be a liability issue. Mr. Branagan and Mr. Blanchard indicated the wire is used by a local farmer to keep his cattle from entering the road. Ms. Cleaver felt if the barbed wire has to stay then it should at least be marked with a neon banner or flags. She also expressed concern with the animal waste entering the river and the odor it may be causing. Mr. Branagan will address the matter with liaison Committeewoman Chamings. Mrs. Emmetts suggested contacting Nathaniel Sajdak regarding the odor. Mr. Szabo felt this matter may be an issue that has been grandfathered for the farm. Mr. Nystrom stated animal waste and crossing may be a matter managed by Stream Encroachment and he believed animals are required to be fenced away from the water. He suggested Ms. Cleaver contact the NJDEP main number to file a complaint. Mrs. Emmetts noted the Paulinskill is a C-1 waterway.

**There being no further members of the public wishing to speak, this portion of the meeting was closed 7:13 p.m.**

**Correspondence:**

Cramer Ecological Services, LLC – Notice of NJDEP application for a Transition Area Waiver Averaging Plan, Manser, Block 2401, Lot 19.06 – *The EC agreed a site visit would be conducted.*

Land Conservancy – Agreement with Stillwater Township to review the ERI and provide recommendations for updating (signed by Municipal Clerk/Mayor – 6/28/13)

**Old Business**

**Sustainable Jersey/GreenFest:**

Ms. Fobes-Jacoby reported on the upcoming GreenFest event. She contacted PNC Bank requesting a display with low-tech changes to their buildings, highlighting their green updates. PNC has chosen to provide goody bags. She has also been in contact with Lakeland Bank, Genesis Farm and the Foodshed Alliance. The EC will display their fishing line collection and no littering sign. The TREP\$ program will display wood coasters and shopping bag holder. Rizzo Reptiles and two singers are also a possibility. The GreenFest will include items of low impact on the environment. The anti-idling brochure will be placed on a poster board rather than copies being provided. The next GreenFest meeting will be held on 7/9/13 and the next Green Team meeting will be held on 8/7/13. Other exhibits will include Prius, a solar provider, and participants of the Sparta GreenFest.

**No Littering Signs:**

The signs have been ordered by purchase order in the amount of \$1,077.20, including posts and hardware.

**Route 521 – (2) 55 gallon drums (across from the Boathouse Restaurant):**

Mr. Blanchard reported he visited the site of the drums and all three are filled to the top and there are at least ten booms surrounding the barrels. He opened one of the booms and it was dry; the oil may have soaked into the ground. Mrs. Emmetts felt the booms would not be saturated with oil as they are primarily used to prevent spreading of oil or diesel fuel. Mrs. Wunder will follow up with the Zoning Officer on the matter.

**Recycling Ordinance Review:**

Mrs. Wunder will email a copy of the Recycling Ordinance to the EC for their review. Mr. Branagan will visit the Recycling Center to inquire about the recent burn and what items were disposed of.

Ms. Fobes-Jacoby indicated several items in the Recycling Ordinance need to be updated, including the information posted on the township website. She and Amy Schwartz will work on it over the summer.

**New Business**

**Zoning Board Site Surveys:**

**Poust, Block 4004, Lot 13** – deck within 100' of Paulinskill Lake

**Dropchinski, Block 2401, Lot 19.04** – Outdoor woodburning furnace requiring sideyard setback relief

Mrs. Emmetts made a **motion** to accept the site surveys, seconded by Mr. Szabo.

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

**Anti-Idling Signs:**

Mr. Branagan contacted Tim Clegg at Lakeland Bank regarding posting anti-idling signs and he was referred to the facilities manager Tina George. Ms. George expressed concern with who was going to supply the signs and if permits would be needed. Mr. Branagan suggested Lakeland Bank provide the signs for each bank branch. He will follow up on the permit requirements.

**Fishing Line:**

Ms. Fobes-Jacoby reported she met a gentleman at Stillwater Day who commended the EC on their collection of the fishing line and also suggested holding a Clean Up Day along the river. The Recreation Commission has considered holding an additional Clean Up Day, however the river was not included. Mrs. Emmetts suggested the river clean up as an Eagle Scout project. Mr. Szabo felt a river clean up may be a liability issue with volunteers although a hold harmless could be required. Mrs. Emmetts thought many of the shoreline areas would fall on private property.

**Pond/Fountain:**

Mr. Blanchard discussed a local pond that has a fountain with colored water that leads into the Paulinskill River. He was concerned with the presence of bacteria or chemicals, although it may just be an aeration system. Mrs. Emmetts suggested contacting the NJDEP as chemical use is regulated. Mr. Branagan will visit the site with Mr. Blanchard.

**Governor's Environmental Excellence Award:**

Ms. Fobes-Jacoby discussed the categories and criteria. She will meet with Mr. Branagan for further information.

Ms. Chamming arrived at 8 p.m.

Mr. Branagan referred the concerns expressed earlier in the meeting by Ms. Cleaver regarding the barbed wire and cattle waste in the river. Ms. Chamming will contact the County Agricultural Board for advice on protocol and any suggestions they may offer to address the issue.

Mr. Branagan asked about the burn at the Recycling Center. Ms. Chamming indicated the township obtained a burn permit from the State, noting trees and wood chips were separated from pressure treated wood.

**At this point, this portion of the meeting was opened to the public at 8:02 p.m.**

**There being no members of the public wishing to speak, this portion of the meeting was closed at 8:02 p.m.**

**Planning Board Liaison Report:**

Mr. Branagan reported there was no Planning Board meeting held in June.

**Township Liaison Report:**

-List of NJDEP contacts will be provided to Mrs. Wunder for distribution to the EC.

-Township Committee will meet on 6/25/13 – the Land Conservancy contract for reviewing the ERI has been signed.

-Recreation Commission was asked to consider posting “no swimming” signs near the bridge at VMP.

Mr. Branagan suggested either “no swimming” or “swim at your own risk,” to address any liability issues.

With no further business to come before the Commission, Ms. Fobes-Jacoby made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m., seconded by Mr. Branagan. In a voice vote, all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kathy Wunder, Secretary