

**STILLWATER TOWNSHIP  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
October 21, 2013**

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mr. Klimek

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 Middletown, New Jersey.  
The flag was saluted and roll call taken.

**Minutes**

Mr. Branagan made a **motion** to approve the minutes of 9/9/13, seconded by Ms. Fobes-Jacoby.

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

**Bills**

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

Secretary:                   \$ 195.00

Staples (ERI Copy)       \$ 36.62

**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

**At this point, this portion of the meeting was opened to the public at 7:05 p.m. There being no members of the public wishing to speak, this portion of the meeting was closed 7:05 p.m.**

**Old Business**

**Sustainable Jersey:**

Ms. Fobes-Jacoby reported the Green Team participated in the FallFest, holding a Community Challenge pledge to utilize the Recycling Center. Ms. Fobes-Jacoby is in contact with Sustainable Jersey to acquire points for the GreenFest. She is still in the process of compiling points.

Mr. Branagan reported he met with Renee Casapulla, SCMUA, and grant funding is available to upgrade the Recycling Center. Ms. Fobes-Jacoby offered to follow-up on the grant opportunity. Mr. Branagan obtained SCMUA informational flyers to be distributed at the Recycling Center. Ms. Fobes-Jacoby suggested installing an information board at the Recycling Center and Mr. Branagan agreed to sketch a drawing of such a board for Township Committee approval.

Ms. Fobes-Jacoby is working on the anti-idling resolution and will provide a copy to Mrs. Wunder for distribution to the EC. The EC discussed enforcement of anti-idling agreeing it may be difficult. After further discussion, the EC agreed to provide educational EC information through the school newsletter once each month. Mr. Branagan reported that Ms. Casapulla indicated municipalities working toward their Sustainable Jersey certification are doing so jointly to obtain points.

**Fishing Line Collection:** The EC determined the fishing line receptacle located at the North Shore House would be moved to the boat launch on Route 521.

**Tree Ordinance Revision:** Mr. Branagan reported he spoke with Committeewoman Straway about her concerns with the initial draft of the revision and she asked for clarification on tree cutting taking place on properties less than one acre in size. He proposed the following revisions to paragraph 2 and 3:  
*Homeowners and landowners of Stillwater Township that do not have a Woodland Management Plan or farmland assessment may not cut more than 10 percent of the trees on any property during one calendar year without an approved tree cutting permit from the Zoning Department. To obtain a tree cutting permit applicants are required to submit a completed application (\$30.00 permit fee) and a copy of the property survey locating the area where the trees are to be removed.*

***Before a permit is issued, a member(s) of the Environmental Commission and Zoning Officer will inspect the property or trees to be cut. There will be a 20-day limit for the Environmental Commission or Zoning Officer to inspect the property. Trees to be cut should be marked with a ribbon, paint or other identifying material. Once a recommendation by the Environmental Commission or Zoning Officer has been completed, the permit including the number of trees to be cut will be issued.***

The revised ordinance will be forwarded to the Township Committee for their November 12, 2013 meeting.

**Littering Fines:** Mr. Branagan proposed the following fines to be imposed for littering/dumping:

<b>FINES FOR LITTERING/DUMPING IN STILLWATER TWSP</b>			
<b>1<sup>ST</sup> OFFENSE</b>	<b>2<sup>ND</sup> OFFENSE</b>	<b>3<sup>RD</sup> OFFENSE</b>	<b>4<sup>TH</sup> OFFENSE</b>
<b>\$50.00/\$500.00</b>	<b>\$200.00/\$1000</b>	<b>\$500.00/\$1500</b>	<b>\$1000.00/\$2000</b>

**\*Littering is the lower of the two fines/dumping is the higher of the two fines.**

He will contact Mrs. Fisher, Zoning Officer, for her input and if there are no issues the proposal will be forwarded to the Township Committee for their consideration.

**Anti-Littering Signs:** Mr. Branagan contacted Mr. Hendershot, DPW Supervisor, on 10/1/13 and provided the sign locations for installation. Ms. Chamings will follow-up with the DPW. Eighteen signs will be posted, leaving a remainder of seven for future use. The following roads were removed from the location list: Possum Hill Road and Mt. Benevolence Road

**Route 521 – (3) 55 gallon drums (across from the Boathouse Restaurant):**

Three drums still remain. The Zoning Officer is working with Schwan's to resolve the matter.

**Recycling Ordinance Review/Recycling Center Report:**

Following review of the report, the EC determined the following information would be necessary: 1) the fees we pay to SCMUA and 2) Recycling Center expenditures.

The EC formed the following subcommittee to review and revise the Recycling Ordinance: Ms. Fobes-Jacoby, Mr. Blanchard, and Mr. Branagan.

**Lakeland Bank/Anti-Idling Signs:** Mr. Branagan has not received a response from the bank regarding the posting of anti-idling signs and this item will be removed from the agenda.

#### **New Business**

**Veteran's Memorial Park (VMP) – Recycling Receptacle:**

Mr. Branagan provided a photo of a recycling disposal located in Sycamore Park in Knowlton. The receptacle was constructed by Boy Scout Troop 1453. He would like a similar receptacle to be considered for VMP. Ms. Fobes-Jacoby reported the Recreation Commission will address trash removal/recycling on their updated field use form and coaches and teams will be required to remove all of their trash from the field following use. Mr. Branagan will contact Troop 1453 to see how successful the receptacle has been as far as trash and recycling being mixed.

**Solar Presentation – Guest Speaker:** November 14<sup>th</sup> meeting

Ms. Fobes-Jacoby would like to invited solar company REC to provide a brief presentation at the November meeting. The EC agreed to allow for 30 minutes including a question and answer period and Ms. Fobes-Jacoby will contact the representative to schedule the program. The EC agreed to invite township boards and commissions to attend.

**2014 Budget Worksheet:** Following a review of the worksheet, the EC determined a quote would be necessary for the stream water testing and for additional file cabinets prior to finalizing the 2014 budget request. Mrs. Wunder will inform the CFO that the worksheet will be provided in November and the reason why.

**At this point, this portion of the meeting was opened to the public at 8:24p.m.**

**There being no members of the public wishing to speak, this portion of the meeting was closed at 8:24 p.m.**

**Planning Board (PB) Liaison Report:** The October 2013 meeting was cancelled.

**Township Liaison Report:** Committeewoman Chamblings

-Jacqueline Espinosa of JCP&L attended the last TC meeting. If there are any trees over distribution lines or wires that have not been trimmed, or those that may pose a threat, please report the location to the Clerk so a list can be compiled for JCP&L. Please include the pole number.

-Rick Nothstine resigned from the Recreation Commission; Dave Manser was appointed.

-The purchase of an ambulance is moving forward.

-Purchasing a fire pumper for Stillwater Volunteer Fire Department is on hold as more information is needed on refurbishing the current truck.

-Ordinance 2013-8 Establishing a Grant Waiver for Site Plans was introduced.

-Open Space Meeting was moved to October 31<sup>st</sup> and Coursen's Meadow and PSE&G are topics of discussion.

**Public Reports:**

Ms. Chamblings spoke about a dumping incident that occurred on her property including animal parts, deer and trash. Information was provided to the State Police and receipts were found in the trash, however the incident has not been resolved. The matter will be addressed with the Zoning Officer.

Mr. Szabo and the EC congratulated Ms. Chamblings on her recent 4-H award.

Mr. Szabo reported that Michele Hess of the Rescue Squad will provide a presentation on the ambulance purchase at the next Stillwater Taxpayers Association meeting to be held on 11/21/13 at 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building. All are invited to attend.

With no further business to come before the Commission, Ms. Fobes-Jacoby made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Emmetts. In a voice vote, all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kathy Wunder, Secretary