

**STILLWATER TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
November 9, 2015**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Szabo, Mrs. Tracey, Ms. Fobes-Jacoby, Mr. Blanchard, Mrs. Branagan, Mr. Carbone, Mr. Branagan

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mrs. Emmetts, Mrs. Fleck

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

Ms. Fobes-Jacoby made a **motion** to approve the minutes of 10/19/15, seconded by Mrs. Tracey.

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

Bills

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

Secretary: \$ 202.88

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

Correspondence:

Resolution 2015-111: Appointment of Chris Carbone as Alternate #2

10/29/15: Scenic, Wild Delaware River Geotourism Project

Ms. Fobes-Jacoby attended the Geotourism Program held at Perona Farms on November 6th. The plan is to highlight special areas in municipalities including scenic vistas, businesses, parks, fishing, hunting, etc. promoting tourism using social media on the National Geographic platform for the Delaware River region. The deadline for nominations is January 31st. The Sussex County Chamber of Commerce will review information submitted initially and then it will be uploaded to the National Geographic site. The New Jersey contact person is Oliver Spellman and nominations should be submitted to: www.delawareriver.natgeotourism.com

10/28/15: NJDEP Permit Application, SC Bridge S-10, Route 617/Fairview Lake Road

11/3/15: Suburban Consulting Engineers, Inc. – NJDEP Treatment Works Approval Application – YMCA

Old Business

11/2/15 Report (M. Emmetts) – SLWA/NJDEP Meeting: A letter* was submitted by Mrs. Emmetts and distributed and reviewed by the EC, reporting on the SLWA/NJDEP meeting held on October 23rd. The letter summarized the meeting which was very positive and thanked all those organizations and the EC for their letters of support on behalf of the SLWA.

(*attached)

Sustainable Jersey (SJ):

Ms. Fobes-Jacoby reported the Green Team is still working diligently to earn points.

Paulinksill River Clean Up Project – Update:

The project video was presented to the 5th and 6th graders at the Ridge and Valley Charter School. Mr. Blanchard and Mr. Sajdak walked the proposed planting area and drafted a map which was reviewed by the EC. Mr. Blanchard provided the proposal* to the Municipal Clerk who forwarded it with the video and map* to Blanca

Chevrestt of Swartwood State Park. He met with Ms. Chevrestt to review the proposal and address any questions. The planting should be completed by November 30th. Trees (100) will be ordered through Cerbo's Nursery and Mr. Sajdak will donate the tree tubes from prior plantings. Ridge and Valley Charter School students are interested in participating and a State/Township waiver will be required. The video will be presented to the Township Committee and to PAC at their next meetings.

(*attached)

Stream Water Testing:

The EC reviewed the *water testing results. The dry summer contributed to high pH and conductivity readings, both being the highest they have ever been. Concerns were expressed on the results of the fecal coliform (200+) and E Coli readings (290) at Site 10 – possible agricultural run-off. Mr. Branagan felt the matter should be addressed with the Township Committee and the public notified as the area is used for swimming. Ms. Chamming noted it is not a designated swimming area by the township and there is a waste management plan in place for the nearby farm. The EC agreed to retest the site in the spring, summer and fall for comparison. Mrs. Tracey commented that testing can vary for many reasons and it may have just been something that was picked up in that specific sample. Mr. Branagan will follow-up on the waste management plan with the County and/or the State Department of Agriculture. The water testing results were emailed to Mr. Sajdak for his review and input.

(*attached)

Fishing Line Receptacles:

Receptacle collection was done by Mr. Branagan. Trash was removed from several of the receptacles. Two new ones were installed – upper parking lot at Veteran's Memorial Park and across from LC Service. A new cap was installed on the receptacle at the boat launch and WD-40 was sprayed for easier access.

New Business

Annual Report 2015: Prepared by Mrs. Emmetts

The EC reviewed the draft report for 2015 and made a few changes. The report will be amended and provided to the EC for review at the next meeting.

SCMUA Presentation:

The EC agreed the presentation should be provided at a Township Committee meeting and all interested parties invited.

Environmental Commission/Volunteer Recognition:

Mr. Branagan, Ms. Fobes-Jacoby, Mrs. Emmetts, Mr. Szabo and Mrs. Wunder were recognized for attending the Sussex County Open Space and Recreation Plan outreach program.

Mr. Branagan and Kelsey Branagan were recognized for cleaning and installing the fishing receptacles.

Mr. Blanchard was recognized for his video presentation to the 5th and 6th graders at the Ridge and Valley Charter School.

Endangered and Threatened Species:

Chestnut Tree – Frelinghuysen

Recycling Shed at VMP: The door needs to be repainted and trash to be collected.

Planning Board (PB) Liaison Report: No report.

Township Liaison Report: Committeewoman Chamming

-A site plan application for the restaurant next door will be heard at the next Planning Board meeting.

-Town Hall renovations are progressing.

-An ordinance for the purchase of a new fire truck pumper (\$420,000) will be considered for adoption/public hearing at the November 10th TC meeting.

-Bill Morrison was appointed to the Township Committee to fill the term vacated by Mrs. Straway.

At this point, this portion of the meeting was opened to the public at 8:31 p.m.

There being no members of the public wishing to speak, this portion of the meeting was closed at 8:31 p.m.

With no further business to come before the Commission, Mr. Szabo made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m., seconded by Ms. Fobes-Jacoby. In a voice vote, all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Wunder, Secretary