

**TOWNSHIP OF MORRIS
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 10, 2009**

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Township of Morris Environmental Commission was called to order on Tuesday, November 10, 2009, at 7:00 P.M., in the Municipal Building, 50 Woodland Avenue, Township of Morris

Statement of Adequate Notice

Chairman Largman issued the following statement:

"I hereby announce and state that adequate notice of this meeting was provided by the Secretary of the Environmental Commission by preparing a notice November 3, 2009, specifying the time, date and place of this meeting; posting such notice on the bulletin board in the municipal building; filing said notice with the Clerk of the Township of Morris; forwarding the notice to the Morris County Daily Record and The Morris News Bee, and forwarding, by mail, the said notice to all persons on the request list, and I hereby hand a copy of such notice to the Secretary of the Environmental Commission for inclusion in the minutes of this meeting, all of the above actions being in accordance with N.J.A.C. 10ⁿ4-6, Et. Seq., Open Public Meeting Act."

Attendance

Members Present

Theodore Largman, Chairperson
Franz Vintschger
David Stasse
Robert L. Wallace
Dominick LaRosa
Emily Bellush, Alternate #1

Members Absent

Penelope Wise
Thomas Humbert

Also Present

Sonia Santiago, Secretary
Ronald Goldberg, 41/2 Hilltop Circle

Also Absent

Fred J. Rossi, Township Administrator
James R. Slate, Township Engineer

On motion duly made, seconded and carried, the minutes of the September 15, 2009 meeting were approved as circulated and placed on file in the office of the Environmental Commission.

New applications referred from the Planning Board:

- A. PB-11-09, Crestmont MM, LP, Block 10104, Lot 5, 155 East Hanover Ave. Applicant proposes construction of canopy, signage and other related improvements. A memo is to be issued to the Planning Board recommending the applicant to abide by the Township sign ordinance and additional landscaping to be added to the front of the property to soften the streetscape.
- B. PB-13-09, Cynthia M. Billings, Block 8201, Lot 7.01 & 8, 1 Fox Hollow Road. Applicant proposes a lot line adjustment. No action required by the Environmental Commission.
- C. PB-14-09, John Crimi c/o County Concrete, Block 10105, Lot 87, Ridgedale Avenue. Applicant proposes drainage improvements on the property. No action required by the Environmental Commission.
- D. PB-15-09, Township of Morris, Block 3703, Lot 6, 22 Indianhead Road. Applicant proposes a minor subdivision to create one lot for Open Space acquisition. No action required by the Environmental Commission.
- E. PB-16-09, Villa Walsh, Block 4101, Lot 1, 455 Western Avenue, OS-GU zone. Applicant proposes construction of a fire flow booster pump station. A memo is to be issued to the Planning Board recommending the applicant limit the steep slope disturbance on site, the design of the structure should conform with other structures on site, lighting should be appropriate to residential area and also to soften the streetscape by adding landscaping along Western Avenue.

New applications referred from the Board of Adjustment

- A. BA-14-09, Verizon Wireless, Block 9805, Lot 1, 77 Whippany Road. Applicant proposes to co – locate antennas and equipment cabinets at the base of the existing Tower. A memo is to be issued to the Board of Adjustment recommending the applicant minimize the generator noise and to provide landscaping adjacent to the equipment cabinet.
- B. BA-16-09, Tower Realty Advisors, LLC, Block 6101, Lot 2, 402 Mt. Kemble Avenue. Applicant proposes an in house occupation. A memo is to be issued to the Board of Adjustment recommending the applicant provide stormwater management which meets or exceeds the water quality and quantity and to provide additional landscaping.

Correspondence

The following were noted as received for the record:

- A. 10-21-09, Letter from the Entech group, Inc. Energy, Environmental & Engineering Services, Re: Entech offers Solar Partnership - Mr. Wallace stated that he had followed up on the information and that the website has very little information. No need to follow up. Mr. Largman stated that we should look into geo-thermal. A discussion was carried regarding geo-thermal.

General Business

Status Reports:

Whippany River Watershed Action Committee – Mr. Largman stated that the Action Committee is happy that Jim made the first step and has the Township moving forward on the Western Avenue Reservoir project.

Geese Management – None to be reported

Deer – Sonia read into the record a report from Thomas Kenny regarding deer culling the memo stated that the volunteer group continues deer management activities in Morris Township and that they have culled 20 deer for the season so far. Also, that the MCPC has contacted the Township to see if we are interested in taking part in another infrared study of the deer population in this area. Mr. Kenny informed the MCPC that he was sure that the governing body would be interested in partaking in another study. This will likely take place in 2011 (last study was conducted in 2005).

Reports – None to be reported

Mr. Largman stated that he would like to see a community garden for next year. He also spoke about sustainable green; he stated that we need to have 100 points in order to qualify for grant money.

Other Matters:

- A. Recycling- Mr. LaRosa will look into wax carton recycling will make some phone calls to get more information.
- B. Tree Ordinance Discussion
 - Tree Removal Enforcement with homeowners and developers – Mr. Stasse stated that Florham Park tree ordinance has what we are looking for; the enforcement is something that we need to look into and it only talks about penalty. Mr. Largman stated that he had contacted ANJEC and that Carrie Miller is willing to review the draft tree ordinance and give us some suggestions.
- C. Energy Conservation – Sonia informed the Committee that Mr. Howarth from the Sewer Department had contacted her and informed her that he had contacted Mr. Peter Bloom from Con-Energy who is working with local distributors in the area to provide solar projects. Mr. Howarth stated that if they accept the Township as a Solar Project there will be no cost to the Township. The catch is that the Township has to sign an agreement to buy energy from them for the next 15 years. Mr. Howarth stated that the sewer plants consume high energy. Mr. Howarth will continue to provide more information as he receives it. Mr. Wallace is to follow up on the information.
- D. Community Garden – The Commission would like to see community gardens for the next year.
- E. Western Avenue Reservoir – Follow up to continue.
- F. Future Projects (Discussion) - Recommendation for next year – Mr. Wallace stated that we have good sense of organization that will help us move forward for the New Year.

Mr. Ron Goldberg recommended that the Environmental Committee should do liaison with the Beautification Committee, Historical Preservation or the Trail Committee that could participate in similar projects and all together can come up with something great.

Emily asked how to go about researching sites in the area for gardening. She was directed to see the Engineering Department and the Recreation Department Director for information.

Mr. Largman distributed literature to be reviewed by the committee regarding pesticides which are bad for the environment. He stated that Canada had passed an ordinance which didn't allow the sale of pesticides. It would be great if the Township would do something like this. He would like for the Committee to review the article and see if this is worthwhile. A lengthy discussion was carried regarding polluted water.

Mr. Largman also informed the Committee that on November 14, 2009 the Whippany River Watershed will be collecting medicine at the fire training site between 10:00 am & 2:00 pm.

Public Commentary – None to be heard.

Commentary by Committee Members - None to be heard.

With no further business for consideration by the Township of Morris Environmental Commission, on motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sonia Santiago, Secretary
Township of Morris Environmental Commission