



**MIDDLE TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
MINUTES OF AUGUST 17, 2011**

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM by Chairman Russell.

Reading of Open Public Meetings Act Statement by Chairman:

I hereby declare that notice has been given to the Herald Times and posted on the bulletin board of the Middle Township Municipal Building, stating the time and place of the following meeting, as required in P.L. 1975, Chapter 231 of the State of New Jersey. (Sunshine Law).

ATTENDANCE:

MEMBERS: Steve Russell, Steve Atzert, Vilma Pombo, Jim Amenhauser, Liz Terenik, Jeff Schafer, Dawn Stimmel

ABSENT: Gary Farrow, Rachel Reed, Christine Kobielnik, Lillian Armstrong

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

Approval of Minutes – July 20, 2011

On motion by: Steve Atzert Seconded by: Jim Amenhauser
Minutes were approved.

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED:

- Notice to Neighboring Landowners-Wright Partners, LLC Property located at 516 Stone Harbor Blvd – Block 132.01; Lot 28-Middle Township
- Letter to the Editor from Vilma Pombo

SUSTAINABLE NEW JERSEY REPORT-LIZ TERENIK

Liz has just submitted documentation for the 13 actions we have completed, which is the Bronze level.

Projects the EC is working on are:

- Grounds & Maintenance Policy – Steve Atzert to follow up with Andrew Smith on this. Once this is done, the Integrated Pest Management Resolution can then be sent to Committee.
- Environmental Assessment Ordinance is drafted.
- Community Forestry Plan – Shade Tree Commission has done this in the past-Township already has Memorial Tree Planting Program.

- Complete Streets – when a street is redesigned or reconstructed, the engineer tries to work in pedestrian walks, bike lanes, etc-will work with Traffic Advisory Committee on this.
- Sustainable Land Use Plan-need demonstration site for drought resistant plants and native plants; wind turbines; solar panels; Goshen Complex would be a good spot. Vilma said she could get Master Gardners to help as they need to do volunteer work. It was suggested we should have a sub committee for this.
- Water Conservation Education
- Community Clean Up – discussed we should start planning. We need to do some advertising-Liz will speak with Jill about running an ad. Maybe we could get Cub Scouts-Girl Scouts or school groups to participate. Will do early to mid October. Jim Amenhauser and Steve Atzert volunteered. Meeting will be scheduled later to discuss. Will need to check on insurance for volunteers that participate.
- Mayors Wellness Campaign – Mayor DeLanze is working on this.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Green Team Resolution was adopted at Monday nights (August 15th) and everyone on the Environmental Committee is on the Green Team.
- Steve Atzert is going to meet with Drew to discuss the Grounds and Maintenance Policy.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Rachel spoke about contracting with Plant Material Center.
- Jeff Schafer spoke of doing energy project regarding light mounting, taking down old creosote poles and replacing with solar polls. Thinks Bike Path would be a good starting place. Expensive to do, should maybe consider applying for a grant to do this. Could have a consultant come to Township and talk to us about solar panels. Discussed several ways of getting credit back for energy and time period involved. Could possibly piggyback the State for an Energy Savings Plan.

COMMENTS:

- Chairman Russell said he will speak with Vince Orlando, the Committee and David May in Zoning about wind turbines and solar panels.
- Steve Atzert commented on stormwater basins at Barneget Bay, another item for water conversation.

Meeting adjourned 7:49 PM