



**MIDDLE TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 12, 2012**

Meeting called to order at 6:34 PM

ATTENDANCE:

MEMBERS: Gary Farrow, Jeff Schafer, Vilma Pombo, Susan Copson, Betsy Haskin, Larissa Smith, Dawn Stimmel

ABSENT: Steve Atzert, Rachel Reed, Lillian Armstrong, Liz Terenik
Also present was Zach Nickerson who is the Americorps Watershed Ambassador.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

Approval of Minutes – November 14, 2012

On Motion By: Susan Copson

Seconded By: Betsy Haskin (voting in place of Lillian Armstrong)
Minutes were approved.

1.) Communications

- Plans Prepared By: William Sweeney - Minor Subdivision-Hardship Variance-Applicant: Wildwood Golf and Country Club-Block 356.01; Lot(s) 30.01-30.03; Street Address: 2,4,6 Pin High Drive-going before Planning Board January 8, 2013-making environmentally better-taking from 3 lots to 2 – No Comment
- Plans Prepared By: Arthur Ponzio Co. & Associates – Use Variance-Major Site Plan-Applicant: Monterey Motel Inc.-Block 348.02; Lot(S) 2 & 10; Street Address: Indian Trail and 663 Shunpike -going before Zoning Board January 10, 2013-owner is trying to legalize the businesses in these storage units-there are approximately 20 businesses there-some businesses actually have store fronts-someone actually lives there also-there is public water there but no sewer-owner requesting usage approval for other than storage-consensus amongst EC members is this should not be allowed.
- Waters Edge Environmental LLC-Letter of Interpretation Line Verification, 11 Colgate Street; Block 392; Lot 3; Applicant-Francis Musarra- No comment
- Notice to Neighboring Landowners-Submitted by Lomax Consulting Group for Stephan and Beverly Hoech for 15 N 8th St; Block 393; Lot 7; Reason: General permit

authorization-placement of one or more buildings or other structures-expansion of existing pavement, buildings or other structures.- No comment

- Plans Prepared By: Stephen Martinelli-Hardship Variance-Applicant: Richard Valente-Block 117.04; Lot(s) 25; Street Address: 37 Seabreeze Lane-going before Zoning Board January 10, 2013 – Per Susan Copson, Steve Atzert has already presented a letter to the Zoning Board regarding this.

2.) Sustainable New Jersey Report-Liz Terenik - None

3.) Unfinished Business

- Vilma announced that there is going to be a committee meeting for the Open Space and Recreation Program on January 3 with a public meeting to be held January 22, 2013.
- Clean Up – Larissa Smith is in processing of organizing our clean up, which is going to be held March 16, 2013 with a rain date of March 23, 2013. She has reserved the MLK Center for that day. Andrew from public works will supply vests, gloves and trash bags. It was suggested that times be the same as last year with registration 8-8:30 AM; clean up from 8:45-11:15 and lunch at 11.30. Discussion was held on who would provide food for breakfast and lunch. Jeff Schafer said he would speak with the owners of the CMCH McDonalds to see if they would be interested in donating this year. Also discussed ways to get information out there about the clean up by doing press releases, robo call by the Mayor and putting on the Township website. Also had put signs up last year in the areas that were to be cleaned. Steve has the list of the areas being done this year.

4.) New Business

- Jeff Schafer spoke of a program by the Board of Public Utilities for people doing upgrades for efficiency-he said they will pay up to 75 % of the cost.
- Gary Farrow brought up the co-op between the Township and the fire house for solar panels in a field behind the Swainton Fire House. He said it would lower the fire company's bill by 30% and the Township's by 70%. The holdup is the \$5,000 fee for the licensing and design. He said Lou DeLosso is 90% done and would like his fee. If this is all that is holding up the Township, the fire company is willing to pay it and then figure it all out later. This has to be financially viable before it can be done. The Environmental Commission is in favor of the Township relooking at this. Steve would need to do a letter to Committee recommending this.
Motion made for Steve to do a letter of support for co-op with the fire company to do a solar field..
On Motion: Betsy Haskin (voting in place of Lillian Armstrong)
2nd By: Gary Farrow
All were in favor.
- Vilma announced that there would be a Water Allocation Meeting on December 19, 2012 at 4:00 PM at the Freeholders Office. She said there are 11 subdivisions in

Middle Township this water is going to. She said she had read in the Herald it also included the 2 affordable housing project sites in Middle, however, they were not on the list she had. She also said ANJEC has charts they are using for water allocation.

- Betsy Haskin asked Zach what he does as a Water Ambassador. He said he does stream assessments, biological assessments on all freshwater streams in Cape May County, does educational presentations to kids and organizes partnership projects. He also designs signs for creeks, printing environmental information on the signs about the creek. He is also in the process of doing a website.
- Betsy Haskin wanted to know if Middle was doing anything to preserve water. Also wanted to know if there was any grant money for smart irrigation systems. Gary Farrow said that that all of the purple hydrants were up and running now as well as the pump.

5.) Meeting adjourned (time) 7:20 pm

On Motion By: Larissa Smith (voting in place of Rachel Reed)

Seconded By: Gary Farrow