



**MIDDLE TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
MINUTES OF JANUARY 19, 2012**

Meeting called to order at 6:34 PM by Steve 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, Gary Farrow, Rachel Reed, Vilma Pombo, Jeff Schafer, Sue Copson, Dawn Stimmel

ABSENT: Lillian Armstrong, Christine Kobielnik, Liz Terenik

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

Approval of Minutes – November 16, 2011

On motion by: Rachel Reed Seconded by: Gary Farrow
Minutes were approved.

Chairman Russell opened the meeting welcoming our newest member, Susan Copson, who is also on Middle Township's Planning Board. He advised that he will be attending the February 22 Work Session to explain the Sustainable Jersey in detail and to see what the Committee would like for the EC to focus on.

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED AND COMMENTED ON:

- DVD Living with NJ Black Bears – Vilma suggested that maybe the library would consider doing a program on black bears.
- Major Site Plan-Moretti & Monichetti Partnerships-521 Goshen Rd.- Looking for waivers, one for width of streets. There are lots that are not cleared and wetlands in the area. According to plans has access to public water and sewer. Steve Atzert commented that there should be a tree and shrubbery plan, and that no non-native plants should be included or permitted. Steve is taking plans home to review and will email his findings.
- MV Engineering-Applicant – John Herr, 15 Reeds Beach Rd., Block 42, Lot 7-Permit to the NJDEP under the Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act. - Interpretation Only – No comment.
- Waters Edge Environmental, LLC – Freshwater Wetlands Transition Area Waiver App-Coastal General Permits #9 and #14-Applicant: Mitchell and Wentz LP, 514 Old Avalong Blvd., block 17, Lots 37 and 37.01, Middle Township, Cape May County: WEE Project

Number 608 – Adding addition and replacing existing bulkhead-only concern was close proximity of addition to property line. Sue Copson stated would have to get a variance if addition to close. No other comments.

- M.V. Engineering –Applicant: Louis H. Altobelli, 601 George Ave., Block 962; Lot 4.01- Permit to the NJDEP under the Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act – Interpretation only-no comment.

SUSTAINABLE NEW JERSEY REPORT-LIZ TERENIK - NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Grounds and Maintenance Policy:** Steve Atzert said that Avalon does not have anything agreeing on a grounds and maintenance policy as he had previously been told. Linwood has not done anything yet either. He stated Drew's main concern was about the budget and how much it would increase. He is going to check around and see if he can get info about any other municipalities in New Jersey that may have passed a Grounds and Maintenance Policy and how it affected their budget. Vilma added there are 3 islands in Avalon that they are experimenting with different types of irrigation.
- **Green Acres Matching Funding Resolution-** EC members agree we should proceed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Approval of 2012 meeting dates** – Discussion on November and December 2012 meeting dates – due to November meeting being the night before Thanksgiving, decided to change to November 14th, and changed December 19th meeting to December 12th. Agreed upon by all present.
- **Map-CMC Natural Sites and Attractions Map-Updating** – Steve passed around and asked that everyone look at and will discuss at next meeting.
- **Liz Terenik's email of January 3rd**-Liz had sent an email regarding Sustainable Jersey and some actions we should take into consideration to achieve our goals. The purpose is to get other boards focused on accomplishing actions in the Sustainable Jersey program and to try and increase public support and participation. Her suggestion is to possibly invite some groups to attend our March meeting. Vilma said that maybe the Nature Center and the Cape May Bird Observatory Group might be interested in attending and we should also definitely consider the Master Gardeners, as well as the Gardening Club. Some previous suggestions had been to do a local farmers market, a community garden, a lighting project for the Township, possible area at Goshen Complex. Will discuss this further at the February meeting.
- **Approval to Pay ANJEC Dues** – On Motion by Vilma Pombo, Seconded by Steve Atzert, motioned passed by all.

COMMENTS:

- Vilma passed around information on a Gardening Program on January 23 at 6:00 PM and Bald Eagle Talk, January 30th at 6:00 PM at the library.
- Steve Russell mentioned that he can find any site under remediation or of any concern. Any site with issues must now hire an LSRP (Licensed Site Remediation Professional).
- Jeff Schafer brought up Direct Install again. Said it involves the Board of Public Utilities. He has spoken with Matt Statzell about having someone come in and talk to us. Jeff said he would like to help the Township with their heating and air conditioning problems in the hall and over at the old firehouse. He is going to see what he can do to help solve the problems. Wants to meet and discuss with Mark Mallett. He is working on similar problems at the Coast Guard Base. They are assigning building managers to manage each of the buildings. He said it is like managing your home. If the utility charges are too high, you try to see what you can do to get them lowered. Steve Russell requested Dawn pull the Energy Audit that was done last year and bring to next meeting.
- Steve Russell asked the members to email points of interest that they think the EC should focus on so he can bring it up at the Work Session on February 22.

Gary Farrow made motion to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Rachel Reed.

Meeting adjourned 8:00 PM