

M. T. Environmental Commission Minutes from 11/16/11

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Russell at 6:35 p.m.
2. The "Open Public Meetings Act Statement" was read.

"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)
3. Roll Call: In attendance, Steve Russell, Steve Atzert, Lillian Armstrong, Rachel Reed, Christine Kobielnik, Vilma Pombo, & Jeff Schafer. Absent: Gary Farrow, James Amenhauser, Liz Terenik, & Dawn Stimmel.
(Voting in place of Gary Farrow - alt. #1 Vilma Pombo and in place of James Amenhauser - alt. #2 Jeff Schafer)
4. Approval of minutes for October 19, 2011: Motion made by Steve Atzert and seconded by Lillian Armstrong.
5. Communications: None
6. Chairman Steve Russell expressed his thanks to all those who helped on Clean-up Day on November 5th, especially to Steve Atzert who chaired and coordinated the event. The amount of trash picked up was not known. Publicity of the event was good with many pictures in the Gazette and Herald. He also thanked members of the M.T.E.C. for their participation at the education outreach table for the Harvest Festival. (Vilma also thanked members for their support since she could not be there)
7. Sustainable New Jersey report was postponed until the December 21st meeting due to the absence of Liz Terenik.
8. Unfinished Business: A. The Resolution for Support of Green Acres by Cape May County (which had been tabled 10/19) was read aloud and thoroughly discussed. It was decided to omit completely "Whereas #3" regarding U.S.F. & W. participation; to change wording on items #12 & #13. Steve Atzert will note corrections and return to Dawn Stimmel to retype for consideration at the Committee Meeting on November 21st. Steve Atzert also stated that he had spoken with Leslie Gimeno at the County Planning Board who explained the reasons that the County was reluctant to participate. The last County participation was in 1995 involving the Green Acres site where ACCC was built. B. Green Grounds and Maintenance report: Steve Atzert advised that he had been in contact with Andrew Smith at Public Works who requested additional information of costs involved e.g. Green vs Non-Green. Steve will be contacting other municipalities (Linwood & Avalon) for this information and will update information at the Dec. meeting. C. Vilma Pombo advised that the Herald had covered in detail the letter from Rutgers regarding the limits on use of pesticides and fertilizers as well as future changes. D. Presentation by First Power & Light was postponed due to an emergency and will be rescheduled. The presentation will give the benefits and costs of energy from Solar Power.
10. New Business: A. Lillian Armstrong reported that a meeting of the Bayshore Heritage Byway will be held on Thursday, November 17th at the Rutgers building to discuss the Routes to be taken. The meeting is scheduled from 1 - 3 p.m. This Byway will connect with other "Scenic Drives" all over the Country. In New Jersey the Route will go from the Delaware Memorial Bridge along Rt. 47 down to Cape May Pt. using portions of Bayshore Rd. or Seashore Rd. also. The public is invited to attend. Vilma and Steve A. will attend. Steve A. will contact U.S.F. & W. to make sure they are aware of the meeting. Lillian advised that other Environmental Groups have been contacted. B. Steve A. mentioned another meeting of interest by the Delaware River Basin Commission regarding Fracking. He gave information on how the gas is brought up as well as the pros and cons of drilling. The

meeting is in Trenton at the War Memorial on Nov. 21st. Members were urged not to support Fracking due to the dangers to water supplies. C. Jeff Schafer talked about Direct Installation of HVAC Systems and how they work. Installing companies pay 60% of installation costs and users pay 40%. He plans to talk with Matt Stotsel, M.T. Energy Manager regarding this program. Jeff also suggested that M.T.E.C. share information with other Environmental Commissions including the County via websites or Facebook.

The meeting was adjourned on motion by Lillian Armstrong and seconded by Steve Atzert at 7:20 p.m.