

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION- TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN**

June 6, 2013

OAKHURST, NEW JERSEY

The Regular Meeting was held in the Manager's Conference room, Town Hall, 399 Monmouth Road, Oakhurst, NJ 07755 beginning at 8:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Pogwist
Member(s) Von Gerichten, Colten, Brody

Absent: Member(s) Amellio, Gaudette, Lutz
Associate(s) Rogoff, Gulick, Grove, Theodora

Others: Amanda Norakus, Secretary

Statement of Compliance with Open Public Meetings Law:

Ray Pogwist announced that the notice requirements of the Open Public Meeting Law for this meeting have been satisfied; a copy of the Annual Notice was sent to the Asbury Park Press and The Coaster, posted in Town Hall and filed in the office of the Township Clerk on June 25, 2012.

A motion to adopt the May 2, 2013 minutes was made by Laurel Von Gerichten and seconded by Fred Brody.

In Favor: Von Gerichten, Pogwist, Colten , Brody
Opposed: None
Ineligible: None
Absent: Amellio, Gaudette, Lutz, Rogoff, Gulick, Grove, Theodora

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

2013 – 2014 Meeting Dates

The members discussed dates for the upcoming year. It was decided to host meetings on the first Thursday of each month, unless there was a holiday conflict. Secretary, Amanda Norakus, will satisfy the necessary requirements by filing the list with the Township Clerk, posting in Town Hall, and sending the notice to Asbury Park Press and The Coaster.

Therefore, the dates will be as follows:

July 11, 2013
August 1, 2013
September 12, 2013
October 3, 2013
November 7, 2013
December 5, 2013

January 2, 2014
February 6, 2014
March 6, 2014
April 3, 2014
May 1, 2014
June 12, 2014

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Residential Tree Replanting

The members discussed how to advocate for replanting in residential areas in order to aid in building up the canopy. Ray Pogwist proposed the recommendation of the program to work as follows:

- The Township would advertise the program to the residents via the website and through press releases to local newspapers and television. A web page would be created describing the program, tree choices, how to participate and a cut-off date for signing up.
- The resident would sign up for a tree and make his/her selection of tree.
- After the cut-off date, the Township would tally up the selections.
- The Township Council would allocate monies from the Shade Tree Fund to cover ½ the cost of the trees, or make available grant money for this purpose (if applicable).
- The resident would be asked to supply ½ the price of the tree prior to order placement.
- The Township would place the orders and either pick up or have delivered the trees to the Township for holding for a few days.
- The residents would be notified to pick up their trees.

The Environmental Commission and the Township staff would collaborate to execute this program.

- The Township staff would provide the advertising, tally up the tree selections, keep records on residents and their selections and resident contact information (email, phone number), receive monies from residents, contact the residents for when the trees arrive
- The EC would create the choices of tree species and source them at wholesale nurseries.
- The Department of Public Works would pick up or receive the trees from the nursery and hold them until the distribution date. On that date the DPW would oversee the residents picking up their trees.
- The target distribution date would be in the Fall of 2013.

In Favor: Von Gerichten, Pogwist, Colten , Brody
Opposed: None
Ineligible: None
Absent: Amellio, Gaudette, Lutz, Rogoff, Gulick, Grove, Theodora

Dallas Grove grove – Palaia Park

The commission discussed proposing the entire area in Palaia Park that was originally going to be planted solely as “Dallas’s Grove”, to be considered “Dallas’ Grove” as a place to honor people who have given service to the Township as Dallas had for 40 years. A symbolic planting of trees would be dedicated to Dallas, with space left to honor future persons.

Heritage Village – BOA

Guests, Mr. and Mrs. Hudson shared their concerns of flooding with the proposed development of Heritage Village. In addition, concerns were shared of the additional traffic that would be generated with the ninety three proposed units in what is considered a congested area already.

Tea House

Guest, Barbara Hudson, shared her comments in regards to the Tea House being “green”. The Tea House generates no garbage. It was shared the Environmental Commission use the Tea House as a recommendation to teach other businesses on how to go “green”.

Soil Erosion

Ray Pogwist shared the Standards for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control in New Jersey handbook. He also shared the complaint form from the Freehold Soil Conservation District as well.

Recycling Center

The members discussed updates on the recycling center. Norman Colten will contact Bill McMahon in order to further discuss post card ideas for advertisement.

Concerns:

Ray Pogwist shared the concern that there is a wide spread killing of bees from NeoNicotine in insecticides. There is a 50% - 70% decline in bees.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Norakus
Secretary