

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

**APRIL 3, 2014**

**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, Lutz, Brody  
Associate(s) Johnson, Natanagara

**Absent:** Member(s) Amellio, Colten, Gaudette  
Alternate(s) Rogoff, Theodora  
Associate(s) Gulick, Grove

**Others:** Kate Maloney, Secretary  
Jack Kearns, Resident

**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 7, 2013.

A motion to adopt the February 6, 2014 minutes with corrections was made by Fred Brody and seconded by Laurel Von Gerichten.

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

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

**ANJEC meeting & follow up**

The members discussed the February 18<sup>th</sup> ANJEC meeting and the issues regarding the Whale Pond Brook Watershed. According to Ray Pogwist about 40 people attended including representatives from the 4 surrounding towns; Long Branch, West Long Branch, Eatontown, and Tinton Falls. New ideas were discussed at the meeting such as rain gardens, green roofs, rain barrels, etc. The major goal

hoped to be accomplished through this meeting was to address updating the ordinances to better enforce matters regarding the watershed.

### **Amended Site Plan: 909 Route 35 North**

Ray Pogwist addressed the amended site review plan for the 909 Rt 35 location and explained that the removal of the 3 basswood trees; although only 2 out of the 3 were damaged, would be replaced by 6 eastern red cedars and 1 pin oak.

### **Tree Giveaway at BJ's – April 5<sup>th</sup>**

The members discussed the upcoming Tree giveaway at BJ's on April 5<sup>th</sup>. The event is being coordinated through BJ's Wholesale, FedEx, The Arbor Day Foundation, and the D.E.P. There will be 2500 seedlings to give away with such species as Blackgum, Eastern Red Bud, Flowering Dogwood, Willow Oak, Bay Berry, Douglas Fir, and Norway Spruce. Each resident is allowed up to 5 seedlings but may take less depending on the size of the property. If there are leftovers, the members agreed that they will be planted in a designated area of Joe Palaia Park.

### **Deer and Chickens**

Mary Johnson discussed the situation with a township resident owning a large amount of chickens and coups on his property. She explained that he is in violation with the township due to lack of permits and complaints from neighbors regarding noise from the animals. Ray Pogwist announced that a Deer Survey was added to the township website by the town as an informational survey by the NJ Fish and Wildlife.

### **ITEMS FOR UPDATE:**

### **Earth Day Fair**

According to Ray Pogwist, the Earth Day Fair is in progress, but no official dates have been set. They are aiming for a possible June date, but could be postponed until September. The event is being geared towards kids and the education of healthier living and organic food.

### **Sustainable Jersey**

During the discussion of the chicken issue, Ray Pogwist mentioned that it could be associated with Sustainable Jersey and will be looking into it.

### **1008 Grove Ave – Wetlands**

Ray Pogwist has been in contact with the case manager at DEP. The case is still ongoing and a soil sample is to occur.

### **Butterfly Garden**

Laurel Von Gerichten discussed the progress of the Butterfly Garden and informed the members that Renee Amellio applied for the grant as of March 20<sup>th</sup> and is hoping to have a response by April 24<sup>th</sup>. The site next to the library is the proposed area for the garden and if successful, a second location could be in the court yard at the high school.

**Martelli Site**

Ray Pogwist brought the issue of the Martelli site to the members attention. Photos were submitted of the work being done on the site. Concerns were raised about the clear cutting done and the shrinking of the tree canopy. The Martelli Corp has been in court due to clear cutting on overlapping neighboring properties, but no results are known.

**Plan Review** – None

**Planning Board Update** – None

**Concerns** – None

**Comments** – None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kate Maloney  
Secretary