

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

June 4, 2015

OAKHURST, NEW JERSEY

The Regular Meeting was held in the Second Floor, West Wing Conference Room, Town Hall, 399 Monmouth Road Oakhurst, NJ 07755 beginning at 8:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Pogwist
Member(s) Von Gerichten, Colten, Amellio, Gaudette, Brody
Alternate(s)
Associate(s) Johnson, Stroebel, Natanagara

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

Others: Kate Maloney, Secretary
Jack Kearns, Resident
Maggie Boyce, 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 May 2, 2014.

A motion to adopt the May 7, 2015 minutes was made by Fred Brody and seconded by Stephen Gaudette.

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

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Green Tour In Ocean

Ray Pogwist discussed with members the idea of having a 'green tour' in Ocean Township. Pogwist explained to members that the town of Red Bank had their own green tour last year in which participants were led around the town to

different ‘green’ homes and businesses. Pogwist told members that he believed this would be a positive event in which more residents could become informed of better, more green practices that could be useful to their own homes.

Schedule New Meeting Dates

Kate Maloney; secretary, proposed new meeting dates for the upcoming year. The members agreed on the following dates:

July 2 nd 2015	January 7 th 2016
August 6 th 2015	February 4 th 2016
September 3 rd 2015	March 3 rd 2016
October 1 st 2015	April 7 th 2016
November 5 th 2015	May 5 th 2016
December 3 rd 2015	June 2 nd 2016

The dates will be posted on the township’s website. If any scheduling conflicts occur, dates may be changed.

Recycling – The Next Step with Kirsten Kristensen of The White House

Resident Kirsten Kristensen and owner of The White House on Monmouth Road gave a small presentation on her ‘green’ business and the Terracycling recycling program. She explained that her business, Tea 4 U is a green business and this location is the only business in Town that has a charging station. She stated that she has an incentive program in which customers can return the non-biodegradable tea bags and for every 8 bags they will receive 50% their next purchase. Kristensen then explained that with these tea bags as well as other non-recyclable items, she “up cycles” them through the Terracycling Program. She is able to print out a shipping label from the Terracycling website, send it free of charge to the Terracycling business location, and in return gets a percentage to donate to the charity of her choosing.

Sustainable Jersey Training

Chairman Pogwist announced to members that Sustainable Jersey will be having a Training Seminar on June 10th. He advised that if any member would like to attend, to get in touch with him.

Coastal Communities Impervious Cover Reduction

Ray Pogwist discussed with members the upcoming project at the Township Municipal Building. He explained that the Township will be re-paving and expanding the parking lot and will possibly be using impervious asphalt. Pogwist explained that there are positive aspects of using this specific type of asphalt, but is unsure if there are any drawbacks. He will look into this topic further.

ITEMS FOR UPDATE:

504 Runyan Avenue

Chairman Pogwist explained to members the ongoing tree removal issue at this location. He explained that 5 trees were removed from this property without a permit and, according to Boley's Tree Service; the tree service company used, 2 of the 5 trees were dead/dying. The Township Tree Ordinance requires that a certified tree expert certify that a tree be dead or dying when 5 or more trees are taken down. Pogwist stated that this was not done. He explained to members that he will look into the Township Ordinance and see if there can be changes made.

1008 Grove Avenue

Pogwist explained that this property is still under review. This location has been under review with the DEP for over 680 days.

Meadow Update

Resident Maggie Boyce updated members on her Meadow Project. She stated that the grass is now beginning to grow taller and mowed paths are now in place in and around the meadow for residents to walk through. She will be looking into putting up informational signs by the Meadow. Members discussed the open field next to The White House on Monmouth Road which could be a new area for a meadow. Pogwist stated he will look into that location and present the idea to the Mayor.

Birding at JPP Update

Chairman Pogwist explained to members that he is working with Allison Coffin on the Birding Project at Joe Palaia Park. The Commission wishes to see this initiative as a volunteer project and not a paid Commission project. Pogwist stated that he will be reaching out to Mrs. Coffin to further the project along.

Intermediate School Trail Update

Associate Gillian Natanagara gave members an update on the Trail behind the Intermediate School. She stated that she did get the approvals from the School for residents to walk the trails. She explained that they would need to fill out a 'use of facility' form. She also stated that Brunner's Tree Service will be donating wood chips to the trails.

Anti-Idling Update

Due to time, this topic was tabled until next month's meeting.

Planning Board Update – None **Concerns** –

Ray Pogwist expressed his concern about 804 Maple Street. There is a new building proposal for that location. However, this address is possible wetlands and is very close to the 1008 Groove Avenue location. Pogwist received the letter from the DEP in regards to the application. He stated he will go to the property to inspect.

Comments – None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kate Maloney
Secretary