

Elk Township Environmental Commission (ETEC)
August 8, 2007
Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

ETEC Members: Donna Weiss, Billie Chambers, Larry Christy, Donna Nicholson, Teal Jefferis, and Frank Goss

Elk Twp Committee: Don Brovero

DVRPC: Suzanne McCarthy and Laura Goldberg

I. July 11, 2007 Meeting Minutes Approval

- a. Frank Goss moved to approve the July 11, 2007 minutes, Donna Nicholson Seconded the motion. The July 11, 2007 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

II. Public Discussion

None

III. New Business

- a. Environmental Resource Inventory Progress Meeting - DVRPC presented the work completed on the ERI , public notification and survey that is to be completed as well and discussion of the Progress Report due August 15, 2007.

Suzanne asked for a digital drawing of the zoning map; Teal indicated he would inquire with Mark Schuster, Zoning Officer, to get the electronic copy. The ETEC went over the draft figures completed by DVRPC and made our input to the figures.

Discussed the public survey method to be used, including Survey Monkey for on-line survey; with the next tax bill; with the township newsletter; or a separate mailer.

Suzanne started the Progress Report and Teal will complete and send to ANJEC by the deadline of August 15th.

- b. Preliminary/Final Major Site Plan – Ewan 77, LLC – Block 6, Lots 1, 2 & 3, Ewan Road @ Route 77.

The project involves changing zoning from residential to commercial. No environmental issues of note in the Site Plan. Teal to draft a letter on behalf of ETEC to the Planning/Zoning Board.

- c. Minor Site Plan Application – Zone Striping, Block 30, Lots 14-18 & 20, New Jersey Avenue.

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This site is in a significant recharge area and is removing what looks like a considerable number of trees. How does the applicant propose to reduce the number of trees removed and/or will they be replaced as part of the final development plan. ETEC noted the presence of a low area and potential wetland. ETEC questions whether a wetlands delineation was completed in this area. Teal to draft a letter with these questions to P/Z board.

- d. Discussion regarding Elephant Swamp Parking Lot and work completed, sign variance application, and additional items (open space).

The final fence installation will require auger for Saturday August 15th, agreed to meet at 7am. Larry to bring auger.

II. Old Business

- a. Soil Removal Ordinance (Draft)-Reviewed the ordinance, with minor edits/changes. Donna Nicholson will provide edits to Teal and the ordinance will be submitted for review/comment to the Planning/Zoning Board.
- b. Shade Tree Grant Research- tabled.
- c. County's Model Septic Disposal Ordinance-consideration for allowing alternative treatment systems-tabled.

III. Correspondence

There was unopened mail in the ETEC mailbox. Donna Nicholson will notify Teal Jefferis of the mail and this will be addressed, as needed, at the next meeting in August.

IV. Open Commission Discussion

- a. Teal brought up the possibility of recommending to the Township Committee that the Elephant Swamp Trail property be deed restricted for preservation. Teal will draft a letter on behalf of ETEC.
- b. Frank brought an English Septic company mailer he received with Do's and Don'ts for private septic systems. He would like ETEC to consider developing a similar form or mailer to provide to the resident of Elk without any company endorsements.

V. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 10:25 pm

Next ETEC meeting will be at 7:30pm, Wednesday, September 12, 2007.