

Elk Township Environmental Commission
Wednesday, May 14, 2008
Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

ETEC Members: Teal Jefferis, Donna Nicholson, Billie Chambers, Larry Christy, Donna Weiss, and Kevin Costello

Elk Twp Committee: Phil Barbaro, Don Brovero

Absent: Frank Goss

Public: N/A

I. Review and Approve Meeting Minutes of April 9, 2008.

a. Larry Christy moved to approve April 9, 2008 minutes; Donna Weiss seconded the motion. The April 9, 2008 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

II. Public Discussion:

Mayor Barbaro discussed public meeting regarding the Environmental Resource Inventory. Agreed to try for June 12th; Teal was to ask Debbie Pine for municipal building availability for that date.

III. New Business

- a. Planning/Zoning Board Application Review for May
 - i. Got new packet since May agenda was developed-21 Single Family Homes off Route 538 located across from Kirkpatrick tree farm; tabled for June agenda.
 - ii. Establish subcommittee of 2 to 3 people for P/Z Board application review moving forward. Kevin, Teal and Larry will make up the subcommittee to review P/Z applications in the future.
- b. Climate Change Initiative – update by Donna Weiss
 - i. Nothing in the literature she reviewed pertaining to municipalities. She will review in more depth and provide another update at the next meeting.
- c. Response to citizen complaint to M. Doyle via email
 - i. Teal will provide a contact at SJG to provide more information to the complainant and see if a fact sheet can be put on the website.
- d. Preparation of Trail Guide (Mike Hogan with SJLWT)
 - i. The ETEC unanimously agreed this was a good idea; Teal will reach out to Mike Hogan and get a proposal to move forward and will use allotted trail grant money to pay for it.

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IV. Old Business

- a. ERI
 - i. Establish date for June public meeting. Tentatively selected Thursday June 12th, contingent on Suzanne's availability. Teal will reach out to Suzanne.
 - ii. Public Notice for newspapers needs to be prepared and submitted.
 - 1. Donna Weiss to write something; Teal provided samples. Will run notice in the newspapers Sunday 6/8/08 and Monday 6/9/08.

- b. Arbor Day Follow-up and plans for 2009
 - i. Photos needed for the website-Photos put on the website by Don Brovero
 - ii. Tree identification guides-what do we do with the extras
 - 1. Decided to give them to Aura School after the Elk Day Celebration where will hand them out.
 - iii. Next Year Event – next year we will reach out to teachers at Aura on what they would like to do and ETEC will provide the gifts/prizes.
 - iv. Watering of trees-Kevin Costello will maintain the gator bags
 - 1. Recreation Committee is getting 28 trees on May 15th and would like to know where to get the gator bags. Kevin will provide the information to the Rec Committee.

- c. Electronic Recycling – Donna Nicholson will check other names and follow-up with the School on who they use.

- d. Growing Greener - Put this off for the time being and will focus on other critical issues and make this a goal for 2009.

- e. General update on outstanding ordinances:
 - i. Soil-received comments. Need to address and get back to Township Committee.
 - ii. Tree –Franklin just passed a similar ordinance; Mayor and Mr. Swanson are looking into it. They will get back to us.
 - iii. Agricultural Buffer-Agricultural Committee made some changes and sent to the P/Z for consideration. An advisory board is working on updating the Township's Right to Farm Ordinance and will probably use the NJ standards.

- f. Vernal Pool/Stream Studies
 - i. Update on scheduling training program, sign ups at Arbor Day and other interest groups. Frank Goss heading this up; was absent so issue was tabled until the meeting.
 - ii. Billie Chambers will check on getting information to hand out at Elk Day Celebration

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- g. Overall Map update
 - i. Teal made changes to the overall township map; will put on the website.
- h. Trail Grant work
 - i. The ETEC has \$25,000 grant which will use for the Trail Guide, fencing and signs.
 - ii. An Elk resident who walks the trail every day says the stones are too hard to walk on.
 - iii. We will start fencing and sign work in June.
 - iv. We will measure off the trail length and develop how many signs are needed as markers and what type of signs we will purchase. Larry will mark/measure for the signs.

- V. **Correspondence**
 - a. 2 LOIs received one for 1074 Whig Lane Road and the other 919 Whig Lane Road; Donna Nicholson will add to the correspondence log.

- VI. **Open Commission Discussion**

N/A

- VII. **Adjournment**

Donna Weiss made a motion to adjourn and Billie Chambers Seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm.