

Elk Township Environmental Commission
Wednesday, September 10, 2008
Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

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

Elk Twp Committee: Mayor Philip Barbaro

Absent: Don Brovero

Public: James Bacher, Dave Klenschmidt, Michael Kazarosky and Len Knox of the Lake Garrison, Inc.

I. Review and Approve Meeting Minutes of August 13, 2008.

a. Teal Jefferis moved to approve the August 13, 2008 minutes; Donna Weiss seconded the motion. The August 13, 2008 meeting minutes were unanimously approved with minor edits. D. Nicholson will make changes and send final to D. Brovero for posting on the website.

II. Public Discussion:

Mr. Knox, Klenschmidt, and Kazarosky of the Lake Garrison, Inc. attended the ETEC meeting to discuss the Holy Acres LLC Notice of Violation (NOV) dated August 8, 2008 executed by New Jersey Department of Environmental Department (NJDEP) for illegal wetland activities. Lake Garrison recently experienced a six (6) inch drop in water levels in one day and the Lake Garrison Inc. began looking into potential reasons. They found that the owner of Holly Acres, Mr. And Mrs. Ackerman, filled in wetland up stream of Lake Garrison on their properties located in Elk Township and Upper Pittsgrove (Salem County).

Mayor Barbaro was given information from Lake Garrison, Inc. at the last Township Committee meeting and he passed that information (including color photographs and documents) onto Teal Jefferis and the ETEC. It was agreed that ETEC will look into and gain a better understanding of the situation over the next 4 weeks before the October ETEC meeting. Donna Nicholson will follow-up with NJDEP to find out the status of the NOV and Holly Acres corrective actions to be taken. Teal Jefferis will talk with the solicitor and Mr. McCreery to determine if any Elk Township ordinances have been violated in the activities conducted by Holly Acres LLC.

James Bacher had sent an email to Teal Jefferis regarding elephant swamp trail and a potential connection to a Glassboro/Williamstown trail off of Delsea Drive at the August meeting. MR. Bacher attended the September meeting to get an update from ETEC on the information on potentially establishing a bike

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trail in Elk Township. Billie Chambers gave an update to the group and Mr. Bacher on the information she gathered From Gloucester County. A copy of her summary is attached hereto.

Gloucester County representatives asked if the Township Committee was interested in pursuing possible bike trail project. Mayor Barbaro indicated generally seems like a very good idea but asked that more information regarding financial responsibility of the Township would be required. Billie Chambers will gather this information and provide to ETEC and the Mayor. Once more information on financial impacts is known, Mayor Barbaro will contact Upper Pittsgrove and Elmer mayors to discuss their involvement as well. Billie Chambers will discuss with Dave McCreery to get information on property owners along the railroad bed being considered for the bike path.

III. New Business

- a. Planning/Zoning Board Application Review
 - i. Celco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless – Block 177, Lot 2.01 600 Buck Road (gas station) – Cellular Antenna tower installation at the gas station.
 - ii. Celco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless – Block 9, Lot 9-186 Elk Road (Ferrell Fire House) – Cellular Antenna tower installation at the gas station. Teal excused himself from this discussion due to conflict (he is a neighbor to this property).
 - iii. Major residential Subdivision – Block 214.01, Lot 9 – 16 home subdivision on Daisy Avenue.
 - 1. Kevin, Larry and Teal, Application Subcommittee, will meet to discuss all these applications and bring comments back to the group.

There will be no September P/Z meeting so comments will be made prior to the October P/Z meeting.

IV. Old Business

- a. ERI Process
 - i. Extended comment period to the mid-September. Have only received one set of written comments from Marathon Consultants on behalf of Silvergate. Teal will pass on comments to Suzanne McCarthy, DVRPC.
- b. Electronic Recycling- Approved Magnum Recycling proposal and was approved at September Township Committee meeting. Date for implementation unknown at the time of the ETEC meeting.
- c. Delaware Estuary Watershed Grant – Will put on the 2009 goals to work with ANJEC on the \$20-\$75k grant.

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- d. Elephant Swamp Trail Guide – Mike Hogan was awarded the work and has started with a walk down of the Reed Branch. Mike still working on the guide and expect a draft within the next several weeks.
- e. Elephant Swamp Trail Work
 - i. There is grant money left and the work to be done includes”
 1. 900 ft+ of fencing- Don Brovero to procure
 2. Stone – already have source
 3. Signage (Teal and Steve Alexander to work on getting quotes)
 4. Mile Markers – Kevin to get prices
 5. Gate at the end
- f. Underground Tank removal Funds – Donna Nicholson checked the Elk Township website and the link to NJDEP UST fund page is on the website and available to all residents.

V. Correspondence

- i. Verbal request from Steve Alexander for assistance from ETEC with Township Stormwater Management coordination responsibilities. Mayor Barbaro will discuss with Steve further and get back to ETEC and recommend Steve come to the October meeting to discuss further.

VI. Open Commission Discussion

Teal received an invitation for a free seminar by Rutgers being held September 29th between 9:30am and 12:30pm at the Government building in Clayton regarding rain gardens for local governments.

VII. Adjournment

Donna Nicholson made a motion to adjourn and Donna Weiss Seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:00pm.