

OCEAN TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
Regular Meeting  
June 27, 2011  
7:00 PM

Meeting began at 7:00 PM.

Call to Order – Flag Salute

Open Public Meeting Act – Pursuant to the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Act, sending copies of the notice of the meeting properly provided adequate notice of the meeting to the Asbury Park Press and the Press of Atlantic City. Notice was posted on the bulletin board in the Administration Building.

Roll Call:     Ed Covitz                     Don Lippincott  
                  Jack Henderson         Pola Galie  
                  Bob Knowles

Members absent: Lorraine Flohr, Heide Geary, Tom Leaming, Ken Bynoe

Committeewoman Wetter was also in attendance.

Chairman asked to take action on the minutes of May 23, 2011. A motion was made to accept the minutes by Ms. Galie, seconded by Mr. Covitz. All in favor: (aye).

Correspondence can be viewed in the board office.

Chairman Lippincott changed the agenda so the Mayor could address the commission. Mayor Lachawiec addressed the board regarding the solar field. Project Navigator made a prior presentation at a Township meeting. They will have two years to begin work. During that time, all the approvals will be sought. Mr. Covitz questioned the flora and fauna study. Mayor Lachawiec spoke in more detail about the study that needs to be completed. The Commission thanked the Mayor for the information and for coming to the meeting.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Matt Ambrosio spoke regarding Clean-Up Day. Mr. Ambrosio provided the commission with the list of numbers from the event. Mr. Ambrosio feels we did the same that we did in 2010. Paint and oil were both down. Two packing trucks were used and will be used again next year. It helped to keep things running smoother. The manpower and the organization of the manpower were vital. 260 car tires and 24 truck tires were collected. The Mayor from Barnegat attended briefly so he could see how the day was run. The sign to require proof of residency was a deterrent. Mr. Henderson felt the fact that the residents were assisted by the workers was very impressive. Mr. Covitz commended Mr. Ambrosio's efforts. It has been great every year. Mr. Covitz suggested letters of praise being sent to various participants. Chairman Lippincott added that it is a fun two days because the residents are always so appreciative and thankful. Two emails were sent to the town saying what a great event it was. Meadowbrook was a good addition.

Rail Trail Signage was discussed briefly. Mr. Knowles will do further study on this topic.

Mr. Knowles brought in a sample of a plant that exists close to his property and it is an invasive species. A brief discussion took place regarding invasive species. This Phragmite species grows 16' per year and gets so dense that wildlife cannot move through it. Mr. Knowles feels this is a big problem by the water.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Tree Removal Application for Mr. Higgins, 63 Bay Parkway.** Mr. Higgins recently purchased 114 Wells Mills Road. At the front of the property there are 16-18 trees he would like to take down. Some are dead; some are being choked-off. It is the old White property. Mr. Higgins wants to construct a 2.5 foot raised berm of Leyland Cypress and Dogwoods. Leyland's would be for a natural screening. 100 Leyland's and 4 Dogwoods would be put planted by Mr. Higgins. Mrs. Clune explained the ordinance to the Commission. Mrs. Clune has no concerns. Mr. Ambrosio added, as Township Arborist, that in the past he has asked if someone is going to remove a tree, that they replace a tree. Mr. Higgins is taking 16-18 out and replacing with 104. We encourage native species. Stumps will also be removed.

A motion was made to recommend to the Zoning Office to approve Mr. Higgins's tree removal application by Mr. Knowles, seconded by Mr. Henderson. Roll call: (aye) Knowles, Henderson, Covitz, Galie (with reservation), Lippincott.

Chairman Lippincott wished Mr. Higgins luck with the project.

Mr. Covitz spoke about the solar farm and a possible name.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Galie, seconded by Mr. Knowles. All in favor: (aye).

Meeting adjourned at 7:29 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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Laurie Clune  
Secretary