

OCEAN TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Reorganization and Regular Meeting
January 7, 2013
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
 Lorraine Flohr Pola Galie
 Bob Knowles

Members Absent: Jack Henderson, Tom Leaming

Secretary asked for a nomination for Chairman. Mr. Knowles nominated Don Lippincott for Chairman. Seeing no others, motions closed. Roll call: (aye) Covitz, Flohr, Knowles, Galie. Abstain: Lippincott.

Secretary congratulated Chairman Lippincott and turned the meeting over to him at this time.

Chairman asked for a Vice-Chairman nomination. After a brief discussion concerning Ms. Galie and moving her position up to a full-time member, Mr. Knowles nominated Mr. Covitz. Seeing no others, motions closed. Roll call for Mr. Covitz as Vice-Chairman. Roll call: (aye) Flohr, Knowles, Lippincott, Galie. Abstain: Covitz.

The secretary read the meeting dates for 2013 into the record as: February 4, March 4, April 1, April 29, June 3, July 1, September 9, October 7, November 4. A motion was made by Mr. Covitz, seconded by Mr. Knowles. All in favor: (aye).

The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Knowles, seconded by Chairman Lippincott. All in favor (aye).

Reorganization meeting was adjourned.

The regular meeting then was started.

Call to Order – Flag Salute

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A motion was made by Mr. Knowles seconded by Ms. Galie to approve the October November 1, 2012 minutes. All in favor: (aye).

Correspondence was reviewed by the Committee.

Secretary will send over a memo requesting Ms. Galie be made a permanent member instead of an alternate. Chairman Lippincott added that if anyone has any ideas for volunteers to please have them see the Clerk's office to fill out a volunteer form.

Committeeman Lachawiec will remain as our liaison.

OLD BUSINESS

Consortium Update – Developing the New Normal will be the running theme this year. Island Heights Environmental Commission has come on board as a sponsorship with a small stipend. Talks are going on with Ocean First Foundation as well. Speakers and activities are being reviewed currently. Date is set as May 1, 2013 at the Lighthouse Center. Mr. Knowles mentioned that next year it would be nice to push the date back so that Mr. Henderson and Mr. Knowles could attend once they return from Florida.

A brief discussion took place regarding Arbor Day and if we wanted to do something else this year since nothing was done last year besides seedlings. Mr. Knowles suggested that the Superintendent be contacted and asked what they would like as we don't want to upset their curriculum

A motion was made by Pola Galie to open to the public, seconded by Ms. Flora. All in favor: (aye).

PUBLIC COMMENT OPEN

Adrienne Socha, 109 Brookville Road, approached and spoke regarding the bamboo in her large. Ms. Socha presented to the board a photo of bamboo overgrowth on the parkway (74.1), a new photo of her property with the bamboo, Lacey Township's ordinance as well as Toms River. Ms. Socha is looking for help to have an ordinance passed to prevent bamboo from being planted. The Commission spoke about having our liaison from the Township Committee attend a meeting to speak with him about it. Mr. Knowles feels this is something we should address and would like to see what Stafford has in place. The secretary will investigate to see if there is an ordinance in Stafford. Mr. Knowles spoke about concern that pouring something on the bamboo to kill it will only hurt the bay. It is an important issue to discuss. Education is important to the residents. Ms. Socha has spoken to their neighbor about it growing into their yard. Fragmites were also discussed as an invasive problem. Chairman Lippincott would like a memo sent to the Township Committee that we would like to check into this matter further and will come to them when we are set. Ms. Galie will contact her native plant expert.

A motion was made to close to the public by Mr. Covitz, seconded by Mr. Lippincott. All in favor: (aye).

PUBLIC COMMENT CLOSED

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth O'Connor
Secretary