

**STILLWATER TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
January 9, 2017
Reorganization/Regular Meeting**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mrs. Tracey, Mr. Szabo, Mr. Blanchard, Mrs. Branagan, Mr. Egan, Mr. Branagan

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mrs. Emmetts

Mrs. Wunder called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the statement that this meeting is in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act. This was a regularly scheduled meeting of the Stillwater Township Environmental Commission. Regular meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m., at the Stillwater Township Municipal Building located in Middleville, New Jersey.

The flag was saluted and roll call taken.

Mrs. Branagan was appointed as a regular member by the Township Committee, term expiring 12/31/19. (formerly the position of Mrs. Fleck)

Mr. Egan was appointed as a regular member by the Township Committee to fill the unexpired term of Ms. Fobes-Jacoby, term expiring 12/31/17.

Mrs. Tracey was reappointed as a regular member by the Township Committee, term expiring 12/31/19.

All were sworn in prior to the meeting.

Mr. Blanchard arrived at 7:20 p. m.

Reorganization

Chairperson:

Mr. Szabo made a **motion** to elect Mr. Branagan as Chairperson for 2017, seconded by Mrs. Tracey. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Tracey, yes, Mr. Szabo, yes, Mrs. Branagan, yes, Mr. Egan, yes, Mr. Branagan, yes

At this point the meeting was turned over to Chairperson Branagan.

Vice Chairperson:

Mr. Branagan made a **motion** to elect Mr. Szabo as Vice Chairperson for 2017, seconded by Mrs. Tracey. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Tracey, yes, Mr. Szabo, yes, Mrs. Branagan, yes, Mr. Egan, yes, Mr. Branagan, yes

Secretary:

Mr. Branagan made a **motion** to appoint Mrs. Wunder as the Commission Secretary for 2017, seconded by Mr. Szabo.

Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Tracey, yes, Mr. Szabo, yes, Mrs. Branagan, yes, Mr. Egan, yes, Mr. Branagan, yes

Meeting Dates/Official Newspaper:

Mr. Branagan made a **motion** to approve the following meeting dates and official newspapers for 2017, seconded by Mrs. Tracey:

Stillwater Township
Environmental Advisory Commission
Schedule of Meeting Dates
2017

The Stillwater Township Environmental Advisory Commission, County of Sussex, New Jersey will hold regular meetings on the second Monday of each month, unless it is a legal holiday or is otherwise noted, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 964 Stillwater Road, Middleville, New Jersey.

The dates are as follows:

January 9, 2017 Reorganization/Regular
February 13, 2017
March 13, 2017
April 10, 2017
May 8, 2017
June 12, 2017

July 10, 2017
August 14, 2017
September 11, 2017
October 12, 2017 (second Thursday)
November 13, 2017
December 11, 2017
January 8, 2018 Reorganization/Regular

The agenda for all meetings, more or less:

1. Call to Order
2. Open Public Meetings Statement
2. Flag Salute
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of Minutes
5. Bills
6. Public Input
7. Correspondence
8. Old Business
9. New Business
10. Volunteer Recognition
11. Endangered/Threatened Species Sightings
12. Public Input
13. Planning Board Liaison Report
14. Township Liaison Report
15. Adjournment

The Daily New Jersey Herald and Sunday Herald are hereby designated as the official newspapers for legal publication for the Stillwater Township Environmental Advisory Commission.

Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Tracey, yes, Mr. Szabo, yes, Mrs. Branagan, yes, Mr. Egan, yes, Mr. Branagan, yes

Miscellaneous Items:

Ms. Chamings reported the tree across the trail at Veteran's Memorial Park would be removed by the DPW in January.

She also reported the Clean Communities Coordinator appointment would be discussed at the January 17th Township Committee meeting.

The parking lot specifications for the town hall are done and the entrance to the Recycling Center would be addressed in the near future.

Minutes

Mr. Szabo made a **motion** to approve the minutes of 12/12/16, seconded by Mr. Branagan.

Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Tracey, yes, Mr. Szabo, yes, Mrs. Branagan, yes, Mr. Egan, abstain, Mr. Branagan, yes

Bills

Mr. Blanchard made a **motion** to approve the following bill, pending availability of funds, seconded by Mrs. Tracey:

Secretary: \$ 206.93

Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Tracey, yes, Mr. Szabo, yes, Mrs. Branagan, yes, Mr. Blanchard, yes, Mr. Egan, yes, Mr. Branagan, yes

Following a discussion, the EC agreed that the ANJEC membership renewal at a cost of \$375 annually would be placed on hold. Mr. Szabo would contact ANJEC to request a speaker to provide a presentation on what the membership offers.

At this point, this portion of the meeting was opened to the public at 7:23 p.m.

Greg Dvorsky, Old Schoolhouse Road introduced himself to the Commission.

There being no one further from the public wishing to speak, this portion of the meeting was closed at 7:23 p.m.

Correspondence:

Recycling Center Monthly Report: November 2016 – Mrs. Branagan offered to compile a running Excel spreadsheet report for all income and tonnage. Mrs. Wunder will ask Mrs. Leonard for her report template.

NJDEP Recycling Grants News Release – Stillwater received \$4,470.04 in grant funding.

Resolution 2017-001 Schedule of Township Committee Meeting Dates

Resolution 2017-012 Schedule of Township Holidays

Old Business

Annual Report 2016:

Mrs. Branagan made a **motion** to forward the Annual Report 2016 to the Township Committee, seconded by Mrs. Tracey.

Stillwater Township Environmental Commission Annual Report Draft

During the course of 2016, the Stillwater Township Environmental Commission engaged in the following activities:

- Members met each month at the Municipal Building.
- Mr. Carbone resigned from the Commission and was replaced with Mr. Daniel Egan as an Alternate #2 member.
- Monofilament fishing lines were collected monthly from various locations around the township and recycled.
- Formulated a newsletter to educate township residents.
- A budget sheet was drafted and adopted.
- Water testing was completed on all water bodies that enter the township in the spring and fall which included ten sites. The spring testing was funded through the PSE&G grant. The summer and fall was very dry and stream water levels were extremely low when the fall water testing was conducted.
- Animal Waste Management booklets were distributed to Commission members and a copy forwarded to Nathaniel Sajdak for his review and input.
- Renee Casapulla from SCUMA made a presentation to the Commission on recycling and made suggestions for improvement of our Recycling Center.
- The Commission is working on recommendations to revise the recycling ordinance.
- Designed a sign for the repurposed shed at Veterans' Memorial Park.
- Attended several Sussex County Open Space presentations at the Freeholders' meetings.
- Nominated Nathaniel Sajdak for the Governor's Environmental Excellence Award.
- Worked with the Paulinskill Riparian Restoration Project to plant trees.
- Worked with Camp Towadena to remove invasive barberry bushes and plant chestnut trees.
- Recorded sightings of threatened and endangered species.
- Outstanding volunteers were recognized.
- The Green Team of Sustainable Jersey continues to accumulate points and has currently achieved bronze level.
- The Green Team held a Shredding Day in conjunction with Clean-Up Day. Free seedlings were distributed at the event.
- An amphibian crossing survey was completed.
- Submission was made to ANJEC for a grant which was denied.
- A Water Clean-Up Day was held apart from the usual Clean-Up Day.
- Two commission members attended the Planning for a Changing Climate presentation at the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area.
- Commission members participated in Stillwater Day.
- An information board is being planned for the Recycling Center. It will include information for appropriate disposal.
- Walked properties and reported their findings to the Planning Board.
- Maintained membership in ANJEC.
- Ms. Fobes-Jacoby resigned as a regular member of the Commission. Mr. Egan moved from Alternate #2 to fill the regular member position, unexpired term to 12/31/17.
- Mrs. Fleck declined to be reappointed as a regular member in 2017. Mrs. Branagan moved from Alternate #1 and was appointed as a regular member, term to expire 12/31/19
- Cindy Tracey was reappointed to the Commission as a regular member, term to expire 12/31/19.
- The Alternate #1 and #2 positions are currently vacant.

Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Tracey, yes, Mr. Szabo, yes, Mrs. Branagan, yes, Mr. Blanchard, yes, Mr. Egan, yes, Mr. Branagan, yes

EC Newsletter: The newsletter is being drafted by Mrs. Wunder and should be ready for review at the February meeting.

Recycling Ordinance Revisions Update/Recycling Center Information Board/Banner:

The EC reviewed the proposal drafted by Mr. and Mrs. Branagan. Mrs. Branagan described the layout and the correlating circled numbers to the appropriate container for proper disposal. Disposal was outlined and discussed under the following categories:

1 - Aluminum Cans; 2 – Commingled Bottles & Cans, Plastic Containers; 3 – Mixed Fiber/Newspaper; 4 – Corrugated Cardboard & Brown Bags; 5 – Bulky Household Waste; 6 – Metals Only
Special waste disposal/waste oil were also reviewed.

The SCMUA flyer will be posted on the information board, as well as upcoming SCMUA events. Mr. Szabo suggested having an informative pamphlet handed out by the cashier to customers. Mr. and Mrs. Branagan will contact Ms. Casapulla for clarification on the items discussed and attend the Township Committee meeting to address the matter with the recycling liaison. Mrs. Branagan will work to update the proposal with suggestions and changes as discussed. Ms. Chamblings suggested the second meeting in February.

Fall 2016 Water Testing:

Mr. Branagan spoke with Mr. Sajdak who indicated the water testing results are very good.

Sign for Repurposed Shed at VMP:

Mr. Branagan spoke with Mr. Vendetti and unfortunately, he injured his hand in a car accident which slowed his progress on the sign. The sign should be ready in February.

Swartswood Lake and Watershed Association:

Mr. Szabo reported the following testing is done on three locations down the middle of the lake:

- water clarity
- dissolved oxygen
- temperature – top to bottom

The testing provides a good indication on how trout-friendly the body of water is. The higher the score results in more trout from the State.

Mr. Szabo offered to include the readings in a report for the EC. The EC agreed it would be informative. Mrs. Branagan suggested providing the report to the EC liaison for the Township Committee.

New Business

Volunteer/Member Recognition:

-Mrs. Branagan for her work on the Recycling Center signage.

Mr. Blanchard apologized for his absenteeism over the past few months due to his work commitment in Maine. He asked to be replaced as a regular member and to serve as an alternate member so he can continue to participate. The EC agreed.

Endangered and Threatened Species: None sighted.

Paulinskill River Tree Planting:

Mr. Branagan spoke with Mr. Sajdak and he would like to plant additional trees along the Paulinskill River. Mr. Egan and his students would like to participate again. The planting would expand on what was done this past spring and would be completed sometime this spring.

At this point, this portion of the meeting was opened to the public at 8:25 p.m.

Greg Dvorsky, Old Schoolhouse Road asked if the Recycling Center is operating in the positive. Mr. Branagan believed it does and he discussed the income report and noted the \$67,000 in the Recycling Trust. Mr. Szabo stated he had asked for an analysis of the center in the past and one was provided. He will try to locate the report.

There being no further members of the public wishing to speak, this portion of the meeting was closed at 8:28 p.m.

Planning Board (PB) Liaison Report: Committeewoman Chamblings

- COAH Amended Housing Fair Share Plan was approved
- YMCA duplex- waiting for an as-built
- Camp Hoover – waiting for an as-built
- Schmidt pole barn – as-built and affidavit was submitted
- Celtic Creations – lighting and walls are being reviewed
- Enforcement issues on prior application were discussed

Township Liaison Report: Committeewoman Chamblings

-Reorganization was held on January 3, 2017 – Mayor Chamblings/Deputy Mayor Gross

-Mr. Gross and Mr. Fisher were appointed for 3-year terms as Committee members

-Liaison appointments will be done at the next meeting

-New Township Attorney was appointed – Angelo Bolcato

-Zoning/Planning Board attorney is to be determined

Mayor Chammings thanked all for their hard work over the last year and looked forward to working with everyone this year.

With no further business to come before the Commission, Mr. Szabo made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Tracey. In a voice vote, all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Wunder, Secretary