

**STILLWATER TOWNSHIP  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
May 9, 2016**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mrs. Emmetts, Mrs. Tracey, Mr. Szabo, Ms. Fobes-Jacoby, Mrs. Branagan, Mr. Branagan

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mr. Blanchard, Mr. Carbone, Mrs. Fleck

Mr. Branagan called the meeting to order at 7 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 Middletown, New Jersey.

The flag was saluted and roll call taken.

**Minutes**

Mrs. Emmetts made a **motion** to approve the minutes of 4/11/16, as amended, seconded by Ms. Fobes-Jacoby.

**Roll Call Vote:** Mrs. Emmetts, yes, Mrs. Tracey, yes, Mr. Szabo, yes, Ms. Fobes-Jacoby, yes, Mrs. Branagan, abstain, Mr. Branagan, yes

**Bills**

Mrs. Emmetts made a **motion** to approve the following bill, pending availability of funds, seconded by Ms. Fobes-Jacoby:

Secretary: \$202.88

**Roll Call Vote:** Mrs. Emmetts, yes, Mrs. Tracey, yes, Mr. Szabo, yes, Ms. Fobes-Jacoby, Mrs. Branagan, yes, Mr. Branagan, yes

**There was no public present at the meeting.**

**Correspondence:**

-The Land Conservancy of NJ Annual Report 2016

-ANJEC Conferences and Workshops – April 27<sup>th</sup> – Lake Hopatcong Senior Center – Mrs. Tracey attended the workshop and expressed disappointment in its content as it was geared more toward sales than information.

-DEP News Release – Earth Week Message

-Open Space Institute – Critical “Climate-Resilient” Lands Added to Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area

-Invitation: Planning for a Changing Climate at Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m.-12 noon, Bushkill Meeting Center, Route 209, Bushkill, PA – Mr. Szabo, Mrs. Emmetts and Ms. Fobes-Jacoby will be attending the meeting. Mrs. Wunder will provide their RSVP.

-CFO – 2016 EC Budget – Approved

-Pinelands Invoice – The following trees were ordered:

32 Acer Rubrum

32 Acer Saccharinum

32 Betula Nigra

2 Cornus Sericea

32 Liquidambar styraciflua

32 Platanus Occidentalis

## Old Business

### Sustainable New Jersey (SJ):

Ms. Fobes-Jacoby reported the following:

Clean Up Day was held with 16 groups participating. A total of 735 pounds of recycled items were collected; 374 pounds of trash and 13 tires. A two-day free tire drop-off was held and 98 tires were dropped off on Saturday and 74 tires on Sunday for a total of 185. Sussex County Day was postponed due to inclement weather and was rescheduled for June 5<sup>th</sup> at SCCC from noon to 4 p.m. The Green Team is still working diligently and considering the following items:

-Energy Management of the Municipal Building – power usage and efficiency

-Transportation Cost Inventory

They will file for the June 5<sup>th</sup> deadline; finalizing prior to Thanksgiving.

Free seedlings were distributed on Clean Up Day and the selection was excellent this year.

### Paulinskill River Tree Restoration Project:

Mr. Branagan, Mr. Szabo, Eliza and Mark picked up the trees for the project. A tentative date of June 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> has been set, with Nathaniel Sajdak, Dan Egan, Ridge and Valley Charter School students and Ian Blanchard available to assist. There will be 163 trees planted and additional assistance will be needed if anyone on the EC is interested. Mrs. Wunder will contact the DPW for a post hole digger.

Fishing Line Receptacle: Collection began following the opening day of trout season on April 9<sup>th</sup>.

### EC Newsletter:

This item is ongoing as information and articles are submitted. Mr. Branagan prepared the following list of topics for EC members to submit:

-Swartswood Lake – Mrs. Emmetts

-Fishing Report – Mr. Szabo

-Recycling through the mail for a cost, credit cards, gift cards, Xmas lights, etc. – Sara Branagan

-Stream Water Testing – Mr. Branagan

-ANJEC Grant – Mr. Carbone

-Repurposed Shed/Green Team/Sustainable Jersey/Animal Awareness – Ms. Fobes-Jacoby

-Paulinskill Lake – Mrs. Tracey

-PSE&G Grant Film Project – Mr. Blanchard

The EC discussed doing a newsletter a few times a year and/or placing environmental articles on the website/Facebook each month.

### 2016 ANJEC Open Space Stewardship Grant:

Mr. Branagan reported that additional information was requested and submitted by Mr. Carbone.

SCMUA: Hazardous Household Disposal will be held on June 4<sup>th</sup> from 7 a.m.-2 p.m. This item will be advertised through the website, Facebook and placing fliers at the town hall and Recycling Center. Mrs. Wunder will place the following information in the school newsletter for the remainder of the school year:

*SCMUA - 2016 Household Hazardous Waste Days*

*Saturday, - June 4 and November 5, 2016, 7 a.m.-2 p.m.*

*Limits: 100 pounds of dry household hazardous waste materials, 25 fluorescent bulbs, and/or 10 gallons of liquid waste for free. Examples of waste include: lead and oil based paints (no latex paint accepted), stains, paint thinner, fuel oils, lubricants, pool chemicals, mercury, hazardous batteries, fluorescent bulbs, insecticides, herbicides and pesticides.*

*For more information please visit the SCMUA website at [www.scmua.org](http://www.scmua.org).*

*\*This information was provided by the Stillwater Township Environmental Commission.*

#### SCMUA – Electronic Waste Days

*Saturday - June 18, August 6 and October 8, 2016*

*Examples include computers, printers, tvs, vcrs, cellphones, stereo equipment, and other electronic media devices. Limit up to 5 units for free/per vehicle. Scale charge for larger quantities.*

*Between events, the 2016 E-Waste Recycling Program allows electronics to be collected at the SCMUA Resident's Convenience Center charged the appropriate rate. The center is open Monday-Saturday, 7 a.m.-2 p.m. For more information please visit the SCMUA website at [www.scmua.org](http://www.scmua.org).*

*\*This information was provided by the Stillwater Township Environmental Commission.*

#### **Recycling Center:**

Mr. Branagan reported there have been no changes and no signs have been installed as of this date. Mr. Branagan had suggested using the information board, originally located outside the town hall and no longer being used, at the Recycling Center, however it was discarded during the renovations. He noted there is a bulletin board on the shed at the Recycling Center that can be used but he would like to see a free-standing information board and he asked if it could be funded through the Clean Communities Fund. Mrs. Wunder will inquire with the CFO. Mr. Szabo and Mr. Branagan will attend the next Township Committee meeting to address the installation of the signs.

#### **New Business**

**Stream Water Testing:** Testing will be done during the Spring 2016, funded through the PSE&G grant. Mr. Branagan has ordered the containers and there is a \$20 delivery charge, also paid for by the grant. He will let the EC know the exact date once chosen and EC volunteers will be needed, possibly 5/18 or 5/25/16.

#### **Environmental Recognition:**

Mr. Carbone for his work on the Open Space Stewardship Grant application; Ms. Fobes-Jacoby for her work with Clean Up Day and the distribution of the free seedlings; and Mr. Branagan, Mr. Szabo, Eliza and Mark for picking up the trees to be planted along the Paulinskill River.

**Endangered and Threatened Species Sightings:** Wood Turtle

**Planning Board (PB) Liaison Report:** No report, meeting was cancelled.

**Township Liaison Report:** No report.

**Budget 2016:** Mr. Szabo expressed concern with the Green Team funding of \$1,500 being appropriated under the Miscellaneous line item. He felt it should be separate as it appears the total of \$1,600 is all for the EC. Mrs. Wunder would contact the CFO to have the line item separated out; \$100 under Miscellaneous and \$1,500 for the Green Team.

**Tax Assessment Letter:** Mr. Szabo spoke about a letter submitted by Bill Gettler to the Stillwater Taxpayers Association regarding the manner in which farmland property is assessed. He provided a copy to the Township Committee for their review and input.

**Swartswood Lake:** Mrs. Emmetts reported the herbicide application will be conducted during mid-May. A membership meeting will be held on May 14<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. at Camp Henry Hoover.

**No public was present at the meeting.**

With no further business to come before the Commission, Ms. Fobes-Jacoby made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Emmetts. In a voice vote, all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kathy Wunder, Secretary