## OCEAN TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Regular Meeting February 27, 2012 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 Pola Galie Heide Geary

Lorraine Flohr (late 7:05) Don Lippincott

Members Absent: Jack Henderson, Bob Knowles, Tom Leaming, Ken Bynoe,

Ms. Geary spoke about an article regarding (mammals) whale/dolphin deaths being linked to run-off of humans.

A motion was made by Mr. Covitz, seconded by Ms. Galie to accept the minutes of January 30, 2012. All in favor: (aye).

Chairman Lippincott addressed the lack of attendance at meetings. The past two meetings have barely scraped together a quorum. The question arose can we afford to have a third of our members leave for Florida for the winter all at the same time. The possibility of getting more alternates was also discussed. The meetings should not be a burden to make. Secretary will check into getting more alternates from the Township Committee. Our Committee only holds 10 meetings per year now and last year we had members missing almost half of them. Vice-Chairman Covitz expressed concern that Ms. Galie has done so much for this Consortium, and she is only at alternate status. He feels she should be a full time member. Ms. Galie appreciated the thought but said she is willing to work within the confines that we currently have. Secretary will reach out to Committeeman Lachawiec and see if the Township Committee would consider appointing more alternates. Two additional alternates could solve the problem.

Ms. Galie passed out a sample of the "Save the Date" postcard for the Consortium. This postcard was designed by Barnegat Bay Parnership's art department. The next meeting has not been determined yet.

The Commission expressed thanks to the Township Committee for allowing the insurance certificate for the day's event.

South Toms River Environmental Commission is also trying to set up a meeting. Their first meeting is at Jake's Branch this coming Thursday, 7:00 PM.

The Commission spoke about the survey that will be sent to all Environmental Commissions. There are several boy scouts volunteering their time. Pat McCarty is also planning to attend and

volunteer. A booklet was suggested as a handout for the Environmental Commission's of each group and what activities they participate in within their own township.

Karen Green is the Chair of the County Environmental Commission. The poster presentation needs to be discussed so that we can present our own Environmental Commission.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Consortium Update – Ms. Galie informed the board that the sub-committee is working on getting a "Save the Date" invitation out by mid-February. Speakers have been discussed to include Barnegat Bay Partnership, DEP, American Littoral Society, and a panel of folks for discussions. Limiting number of exhibitors other than invited municipalities to Sustainable NJ, NJ Forestry, MATES, Natural Lands Trust, Ocean County Environmental Commission, ANJEC and Clean Communities. Draft of the survey has been completed. Going through second draft at this time. All the current speakers are volunteering their time. Costs at this time look to be refreshments, printing, etc. Township Clerk has been asked about possibly having the Township cover the insurance for the day. Ms. Galie offered to speak to the Township Committee if need be. Ocean County Environmental Commission is excited about the Consortium. Date is May 2, 2012, from 3:00 – 8:00 PM. Senator Connors said he would like to do a welcome speech. Rough agenda was gone over. Looking into having lanyards and or take home handout. Figuring cost may run about \$25 per person from the funders and anticipate about 100 people. No cost to the attendees. ANJEC is going to send invitations. Invitations are being sent to all Environmental Commissions in the Barnegat Bay Watershed. 37 municipalities are within the Barnegat Bay Watershed and will all be invited. Pat McCarty will also be volunteering. The Lighthouse Center has donated the use of the Center and all the grounds. Because we are bringing people in, they did ask about insurance coverage.

Chairman Lippincott commended Ms. Galie on the tremendous work she has put forth so far into making this a great success. Chairman Lippincott reminded everyone to work closely with our Liaison Committeeman Lachawiec and the Township Clerk and secretary.

**Founder's Day Discussion** – A demonstration of composting and worm farms were discussed. Ms. Flohr can look into making one for display. An aquarium would be good to look into, as long as it drains. An observation hive can be obtained from Pola's contact for bees. Mary Jerkowitz from the Ocean County Solid Waste may have hand outs available for composting.

Roundtable is April 25<sup>th</sup>.

A motion was made to ad	journ by Mr. Covitz	z, seconded by Ms. Ga	lie. All in favor: (aye).

Meeting was adjourned at 7:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth O'Connor		