

OCEAN TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Regular Meeting
March 4, 2013
7:00 PM

Meeting began at 7:06 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 (late 7:10)
 Heide Geary

Members Absent: Jack Henderson, Robert Knowles, Tom Leaming, Elise Carson

Secretary informed the Commission that we have a new alternate member, Elise Carson. Secretary will reach out to Ms. Carson.

Mr. Covitz made a correction to the minutes. Page 2 regarding Ms. Socha's property not falling in the Pinelands. It does. Secretary will make the correction.

A motion was made by Mr. Covitz seconded by Ms. Flohr to approve the February 4, 2013 minutes as corrected. All in favor: (aye).

There was no correspondence to report on. Voucher for beach plum trees has been submitted to the Township Committee. Ms. Galie has confirmed the bee keeper as well.

The memo has been put together to send over to the Township Committee regarding the request for an ordinance on bamboo. Chairman Lippincott read the memo into the record. Ms. Galie commented that it gets the ball rolling.

OLD BUSINESS

Motion to open to the public was made by Chairman Lippincott, seconded by Mr. Covitz. All in favor: (aye).

PUBLIC COMMENT OPEN

Ms. Socha approached and thanked the Commission for their willingness to check into this issue. Chairman Lippincott spoke that something needs to be done about this issue. Ms. Socha commented that her neighbor is now selling the property. Chairman Lippincott acknowledged that we will forward the email on to the Township Committee for their review.

Consortium – Ms. Galie spoke that the panels are being worked on. Invitations are being done. Ms. Galie has been meeting with people from the Barnegat Bay Partnership. The Commission is hoping for better attendance this year. Emails have gone out to the Environmental Commissions

from Ms. Galie. The date has been advertised for some time. Mayors from various towns have also been notified.

Arbor Day – Next year will be a better plan to implement something with the school. There is not enough time this year.

Chairman Lippincott added that the Township now is swamped with Sandy issues. People are still not in homes and the Commission cannot expect the Township employees to do all the leg work on various projects.

Founders Day – Ms. Geary inquired if we could get a banner that said Environmental Commission. Ms. Galie can get a price estimate for us from who she uses. Secretary can bring the extra left-over Clean-Up Day shirts to the next meeting for anyone who may be manning the booth for Founder's Day. Bamboo information sheet should be made up also to hand out, and clean-up day advertising. Mr. Covitz inquired about Ocean-Gro fertilizer. Ms. Galie offered to get in touch with Mr. Henderson to see about getting Ocean-Gro samples.

Joanne, the Watershed Ambassador introduced herself from the audience and spoke a little about the program. Volunteers commit one year of service going to scout troops, schools, environmental commissions. They organize clean-ups and tree plantings, water monitoring, etc. Joanne will be attending the Consortium as well. Ms. Geary suggested Joanne contact the 7th Grade Middle School at Southern because they do an entire 6 week program on the Pinelands.

Ms. Galie spoke about a conference on April 26 & 27 – Wildlife and Conservation Conference. Ms. Galie will send out information. The annual round table will be April 24th. Ms. Galie has been invited to be the Key Note Speaker. Mr. Covitz, Ms. Geary and Chairman Lippincott plan to attend again.

A motion was made to adjourn by Mr. Covitz, seconded by Ms. Flohr.

ADJOURN

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth O'Connor
Secretary