

## **Minutes of the Franklin Township Environmental Commission meeting, December 4, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM, and the Sunshine Law Notice read. The roll was called. Present were: W. Andrews, J. Clyde, J. Kershner, M. Lauko, C. MacIvor, D. Pydeski, A. Schmitt, D. Triggs, and Council liaison T. Chase. Absent: P. Walitski (excused, in Florida).

Chair's report: he has updated the web site completely for 2016 and 2017. M. Lauko's biography is now there. He has sent out a calendar for 2018 meetings: one January meeting on Jan. 8 (both 1/1 and 1/15 being holidays), one February meeting on Feb. 5, meetings on March 5 and 19, April 2 and 16, May 7 and 21, June 4 and 18, July 16, August 20, Sept. 17, Oct. 1 and 15, Nov. 5 and 19, Dec. 3.

The minutes of the meeting of Nov. 20 were approved with a one-letter correction of a typo. Web site: see above; nothing else new.

Correspondence: one letter, PSE&G applying for a broad general permit.

W. Andrews has sent recommendations in support of the Paris Accords to the mayor.

One site plan application was reviewed, for Kings Row Homes on Cedar Grove Lane.

A. Schmidt suggested that the EC recommend that all utilities in new residential developments be placed underground, for resilience. This was passed unanimously.

Stream clean-up: April 14, 2018; the primary target, which J. Clyde will explore shortly, is Mile Run between Easton Ave. and DeRussey's Brook. He will look into access points, including from the New Brunswick side.

The ReThink Energy/New Jersey Conservation Foundation/Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association lawsuit against eminent domain for the PennEast pipeline was discussed.

J. Kershner reported that the removal of the Blackwells Mills dam is still being held up by the U.S. Geological Survey's concern for its flood gauge at that site.

J. Kershner has suggested a Rutgers speaker for a seminar on deer (May 21); she sent PowerPoint slides of a presentation by him.

Uses of the Clean Communities Grant 2017 were discussed.

A. Schmidt sent an e-mail with links to programs for reducing vehicle idling. Many approaches are being used.

Various aspects of green infrastructure were discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.