

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (EC)
JANUARY 14, 2019
MEETING MINUTES

The meeting commenced at 7:00 P.M.

ATTENDEES: Present: Walter Andrews (Chairman), David Triggs, Stan Jaracz, Dianne Pydeski. Absent: Council Liaison Ted Chase (attending another meeting), Arnold Schmidt (attending another meeting), John Clyde (medical leave), Ceil Maclvor (medical leave) and Paul Walitsky (illness).

PUBLIC: Bill Bowman (The Franklin Reporter and Advocate) and Jessica Johnson (Franklin Township resident and potential candidate for membership).

MEETING MINUTES

There was no quorum so the minutes for the last meeting were not discussed.

CHAIR REPORT:

- ANJEC membership fees are due.
- There were a couple of wetlands applications.

WEBSITE:

Stan's bio has been added to the EC website.

PLANS REVIEW:

Three site plans were reviewed:

- A proposed outdoor patio at the Marriott Hotel restaurant.
- A proposed house of worship on Weston Road.
- A subdivision on Weston Canal Road for multiple warehouses. The property appears to be currently farmed although it is zoned M1.

SUSTAINABLE NEW JERSEY:

The question arose as to whether displaying electric cars at the Franklin Day Festival, qualifies for any sustainability points. The EC will wait to hear from Ted Chase.

OLD BUSINESS:

- *Boy Scouts green activity/stream cleanup:* Stan is having trouble contacting Councilman Jim Vassanella regarding the Boy Scout's participation at the April 13th stream cleanup. David Triggs will try to contact him. Stan drafted an article about the cleanup for the Franklin Times Spring issue. The cleanup will be a joint venture with New Brunswick volunteers. Stan will request supplies from The Watershed Institute and assistance from our DPW. Waivers will likely be required for the volunteers.
- *River-friendly information:* The dams have been removed and shad are returning upstream.
- *2018 Environmental Stewardship Awards:* The Clairmont School and John Clyde were presented with the award at a recent Council meeting.
- *Compressor station:* Wait for Arnold Schmidt for an update.
- *Electric vehicle charging stations:* The charging stations are now in place. The EC is unsure if the public has been notified. Plug-in America plans to have an electric car demonstration in April, possibly Earth Day, at the municipal complex. The charging stations should be added to Franklin's green/tourism map.
- *One-use plastics:* The bill is in Trenton pending a vote by the State Assembly.
- *Franklin Times articles for spring issue:* Refer to stream cleanup.
- *Township LED lighting application to NJBPU for tariffs:* Wait for Paul Walitsky to provide an update.

- *EC 2019 meeting schedule:* The schedule was given to Ann Marie and Justin.

NEW BUSINESS:

- *Videotaping EC meetings:* The January 14 meeting was videotaped.
- *2019 Training:* ANJEC will be offering the Fundamentals for Effective Environmental Commissions Course in March. New members are encouraged to attend.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

At the suggestion of Councilman Chase, Jessica Johnson attended the meeting as a potential future member. She and her husband own the Four Barns Farm located on Route 518 in Franklin. The farm is organic. The EC encouraged her to submit her resume and a letter of interest.

NEXT MEETING:

The January 21st meeting was canceled due to the Martin Luther King holiday. The next meeting is therefore on February 4th.

The meeting ended approximately 8:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by: David Triggs, Member