

Franklin Township Environmental Commission
Meeting Minutes
June 3, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM, and the Sunshine Law notice was read by Chairman Arnold Vernick. Attending were: A.Schmidt, D.Triggs, A.Vernick, P. Walitsky, D. Pydeski, W. Andrews, T. Biercz, C. MacIvor, J. Clyde, and Council Liaison Ted Chase (arrived at 7:15).

Public Discussion: Two members of the public were present; no comments at this time.

Chair Report: ShopRite has distributed the latest edition of their Environmental Report featuring recycling permits.

Minutes: Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and approved.

Website: Updating of content has been completed, report on the Rain Barrel Workshop and the Coyote Seminar will be added to the site.

Plans Review: Two site plans were reviewed. One involved a sign variance, and the second was for a swimming pool at a private residence.

Sustainable Jersey: Discussion planned with Sewer Authority personnel regarding their switch from diesel fuel to natural gas for their 8 backup generators. This has the possibility of gathering innovation points toward Silver Status.

Future Seminars & Workshops: Another Rain Barrel Workshop will be held on July 25th in the evening (6-8 pm) in the Municipal Building. Participants will be limited to 15. This will again be run by the New Jersey Water Supply Authority. The Environmental Commission will sponsor a Wild Turkey Seminar on October 21st in the Council Chambers as part of our regular meeting. A possible Bee Keeping Seminar is planned for sometime between November and March.

Community Gardens: The Pine Grove Manor School Community Garden is doing very well. Plots are subscribed and flourishing. Community volunteers are cooperating to make this a success. John Walker reported on the status of the Naaman Williams Park Garden, which is at about 50% of capacity. Many Senior Citizens are taking part.

New Business: None

Public Discussion: John Walker commented on the proposed dredging of the D&R Canal and asked about the possibility of extending the dredging to include the area adjacent to the Onka site. There is a 15 day comment period. Mr. Walker suggested that the Commission consider proposing the extension.

Adjourn: 8:00 pm.

