

Franklin Township Environmental Commission
Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM, and the Sunshine Law notice was read. The roll was called. Present were: W. Andrews, C. MacIvor, D. Pydeski, A. Schmidt, D. Triggs, A. Vernick, P. Walitsky, and T. Biercz. J. Clyde arrived at 7:15 PM. Absent: Council liaison T. Chase.

Chair's report: one wetland permit notice received, but the site is located in Middlesex County. A. Vernick discussed the Sustainable Raritan River meeting scheduled for June 2014. That group gives awards for environmental education programs. A. Vernick is going to submit an application for an award for Franklin Township in recognition of the Commission's wildlife education and rain barrel programs.

The minutes of the May 5 meeting were approved.

No news for the website.

One site plan reviewed. No significant environmental impacts identified.

P. Walitsky was in communication with the County composting group to setup a date in October for the composting seminar. The event would occur on the date of one of the Commission's regularly scheduled meetings (October 6 or 20).

A. Schmidt will contact the invasive species strike team to coordinate scheduling of the seminar for the Township. September 15 was discussed as the possible date.

A. Vernick discussed possible nominations for the environmental stewardship awards. A notice will be posted in the Township newsletter, asking the public for potential nominations.

The notice for a Community Gardens committee was published in the township newsletter, and T. Chase has had a number of responses. No meeting has been conducted to date. W. Andrews attempted to secure a vacant lot for another garden, but the developers are not willing to open the space for that use.

D. Pydeski talked about future use of loud speakers at Middlebush Park and the ongoing complaints from neighbors. Currently there are no noise violations identified for the park.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.