

Franklin Township Environmental Commission
Meeting Minutes
August 17, 2015

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

Chair's report: Information discussed: one letter of interpretation (LOI) and summary letter provided by the Raritan Headwaters Association concerning their river cleanup (cleanup reportedly had 1,003 volunteers at 40 sites and collected 9.6 tons of garbage).

A.Vernick discussed the Franklin Township recycling flier, and the need to update the current flyer that was based on information from Hillsborough. He suggested that the Commission work on preparing a recycling flyer of its own, by researching recycling information specific to Franklin. He will first check on the recycling information that the County provides to incorporate that information into the Township flier.

Climate Change Resolution: The climate change resolution was approved.

The minutes of the July 20 meeting were approved.

Web Site, Sustainable Jersey, Community Gardens: No news.

Eight site plans were reviewed.

2015 activities: Participation in Franklin Day (mid-September) was again discussed. It was concluded that having a table would not be practical since the Commission has no up-to-date flyers or other handouts, and does not have a budget to create and publish them. D. Triggs agreed to review and update the current Commission flyer, which is now about 5 years old. After that is accomplished, the Commission will need to have the new flyer printed. As discussed at the last meeting, the other environmentally oriented township groups (Shade Tree Commission, Open Space Committee, Agricultural Advisory Committee) will be contacted about having a joint table in 2016.

P. Walitsky has arranged for a presentation at the Commission's October 19 meeting on solar cell battery back-ups. A.F. Mensah is the company that will provide the presentation. Fliers will be posted at senior communities and the Township library.

A. Vernick discussed having a presentation on community gardens; however a presenter has not been identified.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 PM.