



TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Approved Minutes

For the regular meeting of
Tuesday, April 19, 2016

- * The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Nora Sirbaugh.

Statement of Compliance & Roll Call

Members present: Jim Gambino, Tim Wilson, George Kerr, Bill Washburn, Rex Parker, Nora Sirbaugh, Mike Aucott (7:10), Ray Nichols (7:15)

Members absent: none

Also present: Bob Miller – Twp Administrative Officer

Members of the Public present: Kevin Webb, Mike Pisauro, Mike Kiernan, Richard Yeager

Minutes for Approval

The March 15, 2016 minutes were discussed, amended and approved. Motion –Rex, 2nd Bill, abstain – Mike.

Action: Jim will forward the approved minutes to Bob for distribution and filing.

Planning & Zoning Application Reviews – EC Concerns

1. **Pennwell Holdings, LLC** and the Gadbey organization (Kooltronics); VRC-HLI Zone
Block 37, Lots 17.03 and 17.011; 30 Pennington Road; **continued** Interpretation of the Ordinance.
 - * Mr. Miller informed us that the Twp Attorneys said it would be inappropriate for us to comment further, so review of this application was tabled.

Note: before moving to table, the EC recognized that several members of the public came specifically to comment on this application and were allowed to voice their concerns, including Mike Pisauro of the Stony Brook- Millstone Watershed Association, and Marshall's Corner residents Mike Kiernan and Richard Yeager.
2. **Hopewell Township**; VRC Zone
Block 39, Lot 53; 188 Pennington – Rocky Hill Road; Minor Subdivision with use and bulk variances to create a new trail lot for use of the Lawrence-Hopewell Trail.
 - * we have no environmental concerns regarding this subdivision for the proposed trail use.
3. **Carter Road III, LLC**; RO3 Zone
Block 40, Lot 14.03; 330 Carter Road; Amended Site Plan with waivers for restriping of existing parking lot.

* we have no environmental concerns regarding this restriping plan. The reduced parking stall length is sufficient to accommodate current vehicles. The redesign will allow more vehicles to park in the existing paved area and result in no additional impervious surfaces.

* The proposed lighting should be energy efficient and conform to the Township’s lighting ordinance.

Note: Kevin Webb, from Langan Engineering, was present to explain the project and help answer our questions regarding this application.

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**Actions:**

- a. Jim will prepare and send memos from the EC to the Zoning Board members regarding the above application review comments.

**Subcommittee Reports / Discussions / Updates for on-going projects**

**A. Municipal Environmental Ordinance Review – Steep Slopes**

Members discussed ways to help strengthen the wording in the existing ordinance. Also, based upon feedback from the Twp, we revised some previously proposed wording for the stream corridor ordinance.

**Action:** Nora will incorporate our agreed changes into a proposed draft and forward the same to Vanessa, Bob and Paul Pogorzelski.

**B. ANJEC Conservation Easement Grant**

Ray reported that work is in progress.

**Action:** Complete grant work and prepare a final report to ANJEC.

**C. Water Resources Monitoring**

Mike reported that the Twp did not approve the proposed multi-year contract to have USGS monitor our Scotch Rd well. We are awaiting a ruling from the Twp Attorney on this matter.

**Actions:** Tim and Mike plan to meet with Paul to discuss this “maintenance contract”.

Paul will inform us by our May meeting.

**D. Municipal Street Lights**

**Actions:** Bob will send a letter to PSEG regarding alternative fixtures, and one to JCPL regarding other municipalities in their territory who have removed lights.

Our Subcommittee (Rex, Mike & Jim) will prepare a draft street light survey to host on the Twp web site. Public notice to the web link will be given through an HV News article.

**E. Arbor Day - Tree Seedling Giveaway**

We are planning to conduct a tree seedling giveaway on Saturday, April 30. The event has been advertised in HV News. Twp Public Works will pick up our trees April 29 and store them at their building.

**Actions:** Available EC members will meet at Public Works from 1-3pm, April 29 to prepare and organize trees and handouts for the giveaway.

Available EC members will meet at Public Works from 8:30 - noon, April 30 for set up and tree distribution.

#### **F. Ash Borer Seminar #2**

Nora suggested that we meet to review a recorded seminar from the Morris Arboretum.

**Actions:** We will conduct a doodle poll to determine everyone's availability.

Since a quorum of members may attend, Bob will prepare a public notice / press release.

Following the seminar, members will begin planning for our Ash tree inventory.

#### **G. Community Clean-ups**

Jim reported both April 16 clean-ups (Twp & SBMWA) were very successful.

#### **New Business**

##### **A. Pennington Day – May 21**

Rex reported the HV green team will host a booth regarding home water testing. We suggested contacting the Twp Health Dept. or NJDEP for a listing of local water testing facilities.

Note: the EC does not plan to host a booth at this year's event.

#### **Old Business**

##### **A. Electricity Aggregation**

Jim asked why the Twp has not taken any action on this issue as proposed to us two years ago. The goal was to provide less expensive, renewable electricity to all participating residents.

#### **Correspondence**

We briefly discussed the items sent to us below.

##### **A. Notice: MCSCD, Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plan Certification, Flower Hill Dam, The College of NJ**

Note: Ray reported he discussed this proposed dam removal with the Twp Fire Commissioner(s) since the existing pond could provide a valuable fire fighting water source in that part of the Twp.

##### **B. Notice, MCSCD, Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plan Certification, Bacon Little League Field, Hopewell Township**

##### **C. ANJEC , Solutions for NJ Trash Free Waters**

##### **D. Sourland Journal, Spring 2016**

\* The meeting adjourned at 10:29 pm: Motion –Rex, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mike.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Gambino  
Secretary