

MONMOUTH COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

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Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Monmouth County Environmental Council

Thursday, October 7, 2010, 5:00 p.m.

Monmouth County Planning Board Conference Room
Hall of Records Annex, 2nd Floor, One East Main Street
Freehold, New Jersey

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Fedosh called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL - ATTENDANCE

Members present: DiLorenzo, Fedosh, Means, Morrissey, Oliver, Reynolds, Thompson

Members absent: Baker, Lucas

Staff present: Waters, Connor

3. REVIEW OF MINUTES: September 2, 2010

Minutes from the September 2, 2010 meeting were reviewed. Mr. Thompson motioned to approve the minutes. Ms. Morrissey seconded the motion. Mr. Means and Mr. Reynolds abstained. The minutes were approved.

4. REGULAR REPORTS

Chairman – None

Planning Board/Staff – Ms. Waters introduced the new Area 12 AmeriCorps Watershed Ambassador Kayla Connor, who provided an overview of the projects she is currently working on. Mr. Means noted his attendance at the annual Planning Board dinner at which the Planning Merit Awards were presented.

GHGRAC – Ms. Waters informed the members that a meeting of the Plan Review subcommittee will be held on October 13th and a meeting of the entire Committee will be held in November in anticipation of the release of a draft Energy Action Plan after the first of the year for the members to review.

5. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Update on Brookdale rain garden project – Mr. Fedosh discussed the recent meeting of the stakeholder group and status of the project. He discussed some of the scheduling issues that have delayed the construction of the project. He noted that construction of Site #1 would now take place on October 15th with planting to occur on October 19th.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Fall meetings –Ms. DiLorenzo has arranged for speakers to discuss wetlands mitigation banking at the Council’s November meeting. She will also arrange for representatives of Dillon’s Creek Marina to discuss their project as part of the clean marinas program at the at the December meeting. A tour of the Summerfield School in Neptune will be arranged for the spring. Ms. Morrissey suggested a meeting during the winter months at the Manasquan Reservoir Environmental center. Mr. Reynolds suggested holding a Fall 2011 meeting at the Spy House at the Bayshore Waterfront Park. New displays will be placed in the Spy House by the Summer 2011 and will be open to the public on weekends for viewing.
- B. Project ideas – Mr. Thompson’s suggestion to hold council meetings at different county park locations to include conducting a “park walk” inventory will be arranged for the spring. Members discussed potential roundtable topics for 2011. Ms. DiLorenzo suggested the possibility of a roundtable that would address the connection between wetland mitigation, invasive species and wildlife habitat.

7. REPORTS FROM THE REGIONS

- **North Coast:** Mr. Thompson discussed an oceans program held at Monmouth University that focused on the Gulf oil spill and the potential for similar impacts to New Jersey. He also noted that the upper level of the Highlands Bridge has been opened for two-way traffic with work continuing on the lower level. He also stated that work to control flooding around the Poricy Pond area along Shrewsbury Drive is continuing. Ms. DiLorenzo noted resolutions passed by Monmouth Beach and other shore towns supporting their participation in the Sustainable Jersey program. She also stated that they are working with the NJ Environmental Federation on adopting pesticide free zones, particularly around schools. Ms. DiLorenzo also noted the enforcement of dog waste through the use of mutt mitts has been successful.
- **Manasquan Valley:** Ms. Oliver noted an upcoming event hosted by the Brielle Environmental Commission regarding public access to the river as a result of the municipality vacating dead-end streets to the surrounding property owners.
- **South Coast:** Ms. Morrissey noted the Kids Day America and the Wall Township Environmental Advisory Committee’s annual environmental summit events. She also stated that the Advisory Committee would be working with a Wall Township Boy Scout to design a self-guided nature walk near the Municipal complex as part of an Eagle Scout project.
- **Bayshore:** Mr. Reynolds discussed the Bayshore Regional Watershed Council’s cleanup of Thorne’s Creek in Keansburg. He also discussed the Baykeeper’s oyster restoration program that has been eliminated from NJ waters and is continuing in NY waters. Mr. Reynolds recommended a letter be sent to DEP from the Council supporting the program and asking that it be returned to NJ waters. Ms. Waters asked Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Fedosh to draft a letter to be sent to DEP. He also noted the extensive numbers of sea nettles that were observed in the Navesink River during the summer.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public in attendance

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35p.m.