

WEST DEPTFORD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING
MARCH 18, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Commission Chair, Dave Sileo at 7:20 PM. Public Statement of the Open Meeting policy was satisfied.

Roll call was taken. The following commission members were present: Dave Sileo, Dave Keller, Harry Smith, Ed Komczyk, and Terri Wallowitch.

Old Business

A. Permanent Secretary Position--No one showed an interest in the position. The Assignment of the position and discussion was tabled until the April meeting when all members will be in attendance. Terri Wallowitch agreed to continue to be the interim secretary for the March meeting.

B. ANJEC Membership--A check was sent for WD Environmental Commission membership. The organization will forward a list of membership benefits.

C. 2013 Calendar--Commission meeting schedule has been completed and sent to the township. Joyce Lovell of Westville stated that previously published information lists the monthly meeting as being on the first Wednesday of the month. Dave Sileo will investigate. As of right now, the monthly meeting will be on the third Monday of the month.

D. Public Comment--None

New Business

A. Future Projects & Partners--Discussion regarding how to expand our commission. The Environmental Commission has been dormant for a number of years. Looking for ways to gain public exposure. Dave Keller to compile a list of willing organizations and businesses with an interest in facilitating environmental improvement (e.g. Scout troops, South Jersey Land Trust, Women's Club, township industry). Wheelabrator has been a huge supporter.

B. Clean up of open and natural spaces within WD Township--Dave Keller investigating areas that will require minimal effort as a starting point. Planning our first weekend cleanup to coincide with Earth Day in April 20, 2013. Hoping to bring attention to the open spaces that exist within our township.

C. Municipal and County Composting--Committeeman Samuel Cianfarini is very involved in looking for ways to maximize the township's recycling efforts. A presentation is planned for next month's meeting. Dave Keller to research possibility of composting lawn clippings (collection vessels, pick-ups, township viability). Many areas of Camden County participate in such a program.

D. Open Space Management (public & private)--Guidelines must be established on land maintenance. Dave Keller mentioned that we are not using Best Management Practices (BMP) with some of our open spaces. Strawberry Vale is one area in question. Investigation necessary to see how various areas are categorized and funded (meadow, farmland, woodland, etc) before any action can be taken.

E. Relationship and position with other WD Committees--ANJAC guidance to be utilized. We must be involved with the Zoning and Planning Boards. Joe Nahaus, as a member of the Planning Board, will be our liaison with that board and present updates at each of our meetings denoting areas where we can be of service. Need a liaison with the Zoning Board as well. Ed Komczyk stated that our meetings should be synchronized with the Zoning & Planning meetings.

F. WD Recreation Advisory Committee Riverwinds Program--Joint program between Johnson Matthey & Riverwinds for parking island beautification. Dave Sileo has contacted Johnson Matthey, but has had no response. He will follow-up with both Johnson Matthey and John DeCarlo. The Environmental Commission would like to be included in any future projects in West Deptford to ensure that the spaces are designed appropriately and that BMPs are practiced.

G. New:

- Ed Komczyk gave information packets to each commission member. The packets contain information from the recent ANJAC training he attended on March 16, 2013.
- Recognition/proclamation to be given to Tom Zander for his recent cleanup efforts along the Delaware River.
- Dave Keller provided information regarding GIS tools (target areas and maps) available online www.gis.rowan.edu/project/njmaps.
- Ideas for future events/projects
 - Displaying items/information at the WD Library
 - Rain Barrel-Making Day
 - Displays at the Gloucester County Fair and other functions
 - Possible Earth Day Event to include NJ Beekeepers Association
 - Movie night—Moth identification activity
 - Dog waste disposal units in all parks
 - ANJAC webinars and networking events
 - Partnering with 4H, gardening clubs, and biking clubs
 - Gaining more knowledge of the Township's Master Plan and Ordinances

Public Comment:

- Joyce Lovell shared information regarding clean-up days sponsored by Gloucester County. GCIA will pay money to organizations for clean-ups. Contact information was provided.
- Carl Ford, WD resident, suggested accessing Rutgers Environmental Steward Program (for training courses and possible volunteers).

- Joyce Lovell commented that the Environmental Library at WD Library is defunct and has not been updated. Terri Wallowitch will look into the matter.

Guest Presentation—ANJEC presentation was made by Cheryl Reardon.

Ed Kocyzk moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:40PM. The motion was seconded by Dave Keller.