

**West Deptford Environmental Commission
Minutes
23 February 2015**

Present: Joe Rhyner, Ed Komczyk, Miriam Reichenbach, Ken Miller, Eric Agren and Mayor Denice DiCarlo

Absent: Dave Sileo, Carl Ford

Guest: Jim Robinson

Call to Order: Joe called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Secretary's Report: The minutes were accepted as presented by unanimous decision.

Correspondence: Vice-President Joe Rhyner reported that we had a draft permit request from the DEP regarding the Eagle Point Plant. However, we didn't receive the notification in a timely manner, and were unable to respond as a result. After considerable discussion regarding how and when mail is checked and/or collected from the township office, the group believes we should ask Dave Sileo to make a regular effort to pick up any correspondence.

There was additional notice regarding the sewer pumping station at the WDHS and the question arose as to whether we should have received this notification earlier. Joe will ask about the three pages of the application that were not attached initially.

No Public Comment

Old Business:

ERI Update: Mayor DiCarlo told the group that the RFP may not be complete as posted on the web site. The bid went out for an "environmental engineer", which is not what we requested. It appears that the bids will be opened and rejected. Ed noted that he is the point person regarding the ERI and that though he asked to see the RFP before it was posted that did not occur. Again, the question came up as to whether or not we need to bid the ERI. The DVRPC can produce the document for about \$10,000, but they don't bid on work. If the job must be bid, there is no opportunity for the DVRPC to participate in the process. There is little chance of the ERI exceeding the \$17,500 bid threshold set in the township. Denice told the committee that the township master plan needs updating as it was last done in 2009. There is ERI information sprinkled in the current plan, but there is no complete ERI. While it might cost about \$40,000 to tweak the current plan into 2015 status, it could cost around \$150,000 for a total revamp of the plan. We should complete the ERI first and then update the master plan. We do receive a discount from the DVRPC because we are in the region and along the river. There was, again, extensive discussion regarding the DVRPC.

Denice said she would speak with Jeff Totten about not agreeing to the bids as submitted for the RFP. She asked if we could pay for the ERI in two installments – which should be possible. Joe asked if there was a "government estimate" we should examine.

Denice will look at the opened bids and determine if they are acceptable; if not, the Twp. will reject them. Ed will meet with Jeff Totten at the Twp. to discuss the scope of the work.

Eric shared notes and pamphlets from a storm water basin workshop, and asked that we review them. We discussed the idea of alternates to the commission once again. The mayor reviewed the charges and duties of the commission and explained that the Twp must first have two readings to approve the alternate positions and then solicit resumes for a one-year and a two-year position.

New Business

Earth Day: After long and exhaustive discussion regarding the rain barrel project scheduled for Earth Day, it was moved by Ken and seconded by Ed that we postpone the project until West Deptford Day in September. The committee unanimously accepted the motion. We will communicate with the summer rec people to make plans and produce flyers for the residents in August.

ANJEC Site Plan: ANJEC personnel is available on 22 June for a workshop. Dave will finalize details. We have a regularly scheduled meeting on 15 June, so our meeting with ANJEC must be posted as a special meeting. Ken moved and Eric seconded that we hold both meetings. The motion passed unanimously. Ed expressed the hope that all the members of the commission will be present for the workshop. Since the workshop is paid for, the group decided that we should invite the members of the planning board and other Twp committee members to attend, as they might find the information useful in the future.

Dave will have an inventory of the retention/detention basins in the township for our next meeting.

Shade Tree: This is currently an inactive committee, but Denice will look into whether or not we should resurrect the group.

Financial: \$5,455 in the temporary budget (minus \$250 ANJEC dues).

For the Good of the Order

Joe talked about the geo web site and what it does and does not indicate. It appears we have no well-head protection areas, and no ground water contamination plumes show on the site. Joe will contact the DEP and ask about these concerns.

Adjourn

Ed moved and Ken seconded that we adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.