

# Franklin Township Environmental Commission

## Meeting Minutes

**August 4, 2008**

The Sunshine Law notice was read at 7:52 PM and the roll called. Present were: B. Beringer, T. Chase, J. Clyde, D. Pydeski, E. Roman, A. Schmidt, A. Vernick, and J. Walker; and M. Samara-Timm, staff liaison. Absent: D. Triggs (on vacation).

The minutes of the meeting of July 21 were approved.

Chair's report: very little – some hazardous spill notices received from the DEP. The bear seminar cannot be scheduled before November. Discussion concluded that it would be better to wait to schedule it in early spring (before bears emerge from hibernation).

Notice of the fall stream clean-up (Nov. 15) was sent to the township newsletter. There has been no one to talk to at the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association (SBWMA) about their participation, but Anneli TerryNelson is expected back from maternity leave after Labor Day. J. Clyde will contact other possible participants who have volunteered to help and organize the clean-up.

Township staff contact: M. Samara-Timm is trying to get guidance from the township concerning her responsibilities. She suggests that newsletter notices etc., be sent to her at the same time as to Joyce Miller, streamlining the process but still allowing her to intervene if she has any concerns.

A. Schmidt has sent to Morris Enyeart for putting up on our website the form for questions to the Environmental Commission (EC). He will receive questions at a gmail address, will send them to EC members, who will respond to him; he will pull together the consensus answer if more than one EC member responds. He has also put up: the results of the Environmental Survey; notice of the November stream clean-up; the DEP hotline number (and perhaps other DEP numbers). He and Dave Triggs have made changes updating the EC brochure (copies were handed out) – corrections should be sent to A. Schmidt before the next meeting. He has sent an announcement of these changes to Joyce Miller for the township newsletter.

A. Vernick has prepared and sent to Joyce Miller a press release concerning adoption of the Environmental Resource Inventory (she is expected to send it to newspapers) and a letter to the mayor about it (copies to all recipients of the ERI, when they are printed).

J. Clyde reported that the Trails Committee approved its Trails Report in June, with a few changes from earlier versions (in the Middlebush area). They will now discuss it with DEP (concerning trails through the Six Mile Run reserve) and then present it to the Planning Board for adoption as a Master Plan component.

J. Walker reported on an installation of solar cells, approved for roof installation but eventually installed at ground level for greater sun exposure. What is the procedure for this substitution?

T. Chase brought up an e-mail from Susan Charke of SBWMA, about a draft guidance document for local pesticide control ordinances. J. Walker passed out a sheet of assorted news items.

Seven site plans were reviewed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:19 PM.

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