

***Franklin Township Environmental Commission
Meeting Minutes
January 4, 2010***

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM, and the Sunshine Law notice read. The roll was called. Present were: J. Clyde, C. MacIvor, D. Pydeski, A. Schmidt, D. Triggs, A. Vernick, P. Walitsky and J. Walker. Lawrence Lewis was absent because he had not been notified of his appointment. Also present were T. Chase, expected to be Council liaison, and W. Andrews of the Alpha Phi Alpha Green Committee.

A. Schmidt was re-elected as vice chair (A. Vernick having been appointed chair by the Council).

The proposed Green Forum was discussed with W. Andrews. The statewide Green Fest is scheduled for April 9-10-11, and we cannot compete with this if it is held locally, but where it is to be held has not yet been published. Our Forum could be switched to April 17; but Alpha Phi Alpha has lined up a Commissioner of the Board of Public Utilities, Joseph Fiordeliso, as keynote speaker, so it would have to be determined whether he could still come if the date is shifted to April 17. W. Andrews will investigate whether the Green Fest is to be held in this area and whether speakers already recruited could speak April 17. Other possible speakers suggested include: someone from the state Economic Development Authority, Steve McGuire of Philips Electric, Michael Burke of Colgate-Palmolive.

Chair's report: four notifications of oil tank removals were received from the NJ DEP, and two wetland certification notices, including one for the data center proposed for 800 Cottontail Lane, the plan for which was reviewed at this meeting.

The Middlebush Park playing fields proposal, and its opposition, was discussed.

T. Chase and A. Vernick reported on the Dec. 15 meeting of the Green Team. After that meeting, they heard from Tom Zilinek and Carl Hauck about a revised ordinance on stormwater detention facilities which Carl Hauck is drafting.

The minutes of the meeting of Dec. 7 were approved as submitted.

No new communications were received at the web site. The membership list and biographies will have to be updated to include new members.

Two plans were reviewed.

The draft resolution for a Sustainable Community was reviewed, and approved with minor wording changes. A. Vernick will return the amended version to Mark Healey to be sent on to other township committees.

J. Walker reported nothing new on the community garden.

For the benefit of new members, members described their environmental experience. PSE&G's introduction of taller electric poles and transmission lines was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 PM.