

Franklin Township Environmental Commission
Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2010

The meeting was called to order and the Sunshine Law notice read at 7:34 PM. The roll was called. Present were: J. Clyde, C. MacIvor, D. Pydeski, A. Schmidt, D. Triggs, A. Vernick and P. Walitsky, and Council liaison T. Chase. Absent: L. Lewis, J. Walker.

Chair report: chair A. Vernick will attend the Feb. 19 meeting of the Somerset County Improvement Authority on Renewable Energy. T. Chase will also attend. There was no correspondence.

The minutes of Feb. 1 were approved with a minor correction.

Web site: no incoming messages. A. Schmidt has typed and sent J. Walker's piece on the community garden to Morris Enyart to post on the web site. (Joyce Miller has typed it up for the Franklin newsletter.)

T. Chase reported that Sustainable Jersey is raising the standard for water conservation ordinances; consequently, our ordinance has been put on hold. He questions the proposed standard of watering lawns etc. only twice a week. A discussion of water conservation needs ensued.

A. Vernick reported on the latest conference call about the April 17 Green Forum. Necessary details are being worked out, such as having a technician present to videotape the proceedings for broadcast on channel 25.

Community garden: the need for a community meeting was discussed. The Food Bank is a good contact point.

J. Clyde checked the site on the D&R Canal towpath near East Millstone which Councilman Kramer has suggested for a clean-up. He feels it does not have enough junk for a full-scale clean-up. Other sites will be considered.

A. Schmidt reported 1) a question from Planning Board member Anthony Mazzola as to why the EC didn't question a 65,000 gallon (!) underground oil tank at the proposed data center (former Drug Fair warehouse undergoing conversion), 2) a notice the NJ American Water is temporarily switching its water sanitization process from chloramine-T to chlorine during work on its chemical-metering equipment.

There were no plans requiring review.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.