

**Franklin Township Environmental Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**February 4, 2013**

The meeting was called to order at 7:16 PM, and the Sunshine Law notice read. The roll was called. Present were: W. Andrews, T. Biercz, C. MacIvor, D. Pydeski, A. Schmidt, D. Triggs, A. Vernick, P. Walitsky; and Council liaison T. Chase. Absent: J. Clyde.

Chair's report: two notices of requests for Letters of [wetland] Interpretation were received, and four hazardous substance release reports. No action can be taken on the spring stream clean-up in the absence of J. Clyde. The Annual Report for 2012 has been submitted.

T. Chase reported on Sustainable Jersey developments (previously accepted actions which need new data, reception attended on Jan. 29). D. Triggs suggested further actions for investigation of whether we can do them/get credit for them (Animal Management Plan, Tree Maintenance, lighting ordinance).

The minutes of the meeting of Jan. 7 were approved. Nothing was received at the web site. Six plans were reviewed.

Community gardens: J. Walker reported that presentations for CDBG grants are due at the next Council meeting. Should the Commission apply for a grant for another garden? After discussion, the Commission concluded that this would be premature until we find coordinators for the existing gardens.

A. Vernick presented the ANJEC draft resolution in support of sustained, long term funding for acquisition of open space (Green Acres, Blue Acres, farmland protection). The Commission passed this, with a change recognizing that the Council has already passed such a resolution.

The Watershed Ambassador of the New Jersey Water Supply Authority has responded positively to our request to run another rain barrel workshop. This could be held in the municipal building on a Saturday, but not March 30 or April 6. D. Triggs and A. Schmidt suggested scheduling it late enough in the spring so that it could be advertised in the next township newsletter (copy due March 1, published April 1) – perhaps May 4. [Subsequently, A. Vernick reported that May 4 is not available for the Watershed Ambassador, May 11 would be better.] The Water Supply Authority wants to target a small watershed, while the Commission wants to advertise it for the general public in order to get a better turnout. The Watershed Ambassador could write and call residents of a small watershed before the newsletter comes out.

A. Vernick discussed the possibility of a wildlife seminar, on coyotes or beekeeping suggested by Cathy Blumig. All supported having a seminar on coyotes in the spring, before one of the regular May meetings, which could be publicized in the newsletter. A. Schmidt will contact Cathy concerning this.

J. Walker suggested publicizing, in the newsletter and on the web site, the new state fertilizer regulations and new federal regulations on replacement of home heating furnaces (aiming at 90% efficiency). He will ask the Council for funding for testing of well water in the Franklin Park area, outside the area previously tested – the trichloroethylene contamination is still spreading.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.