

**Franklin Township Environmental Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**May 6, 2013**

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM, and the Sunshine Law notice read. The roll was called. Present were: W. Andrews, T. Biercz, J. Clyde, C. MacIvor, D. Pydeski, A. Schmidt, D. Triggs, A. Vernick, and P. Walitsky; and T. Chase, Council liaison.

A. Schmidt introduced Anthony McBride, Division of Fish and Wildlife, NJDEP, to speak about Eastern Coyotes. Mr. McBride spoke for about an hour, answering numerous questions. Among topics covered were the range (most of North America, except northeastern Canada) of coyotes, the genetic heritage of Eastern Coyotes (some interbreeding with wolves, resulting in larger size and variation on color, including a dark phase), fencing to keep coyotes out (include electrified wires at the top and bottom of the fence; coyotes will try to go under a fence before trying to go over) and DEP policies on removal of 'problem' coyotes which attack domestic animals. At his request, his presentation was not videotaped.

Chair's report: the DEP RFP on wastewater management is not something the Environmental Commission could undertake. The 2003 report on the EC survey of pollutants in township streams is on the township web site. He received a paper from ANJEC on doing an Environmental Resource Inventory (we do not need to revise ours until the next Master Plan revision, due in 2016). Five hazardous substance release reports were received from the DEP.

J. Clyde reported on the April 20 clean-up – 850 pounds of debris were collected by 45 volunteers, whom he thanked.

W. Andrews noted that PSE&G is appealing for municipal endorsement of its Energy Strong plan to make its electrical and gas systems more resilient. The web site describing this is [www.njenergystrong.com](http://www.njenergystrong.com).

The minutes of the meeting of April 16 were approved without changes. A. Schmidt has over the past few weeks added notes to the web site about upcoming programs.

Three plans were reviewed, including a 900,000 sq. ft. warehouse off Weston Canal Rd and the billboard on I-287.

Sustainable Jersey: the Green Team met on April 10. We will not strive to apply for Silver certification in June, but will classify prospective actions by when they ought to be accomplished (by September, by December, by June 2014), to try to get them accomplished.

P. Walitsky has arranged for Steve Berkowitz to come to the June 17 meeting of the EC to describe the potential for recycling hard plastics (a Sustainable Jersey action).

Rain Barrel workshop, scheduled for May 11: 35 people have signed up, and 22 rain barrels have been reserved! The barrels will be delivered to the lobby of the municipal building around noon May 10.

A. Schmidt and T. Chase reported concerning a Canal Rd. resident's complaint about the Trap Rock Quarry asphalt plant emissions. She has met with a representative of the county health dept.

Community Gardens – nothing new.

T. Biercz showed photos of a coyote seen from the Van Liew-Suydam house on South Middlebush Rd.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.