



BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

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Minutes of Regular Meeting
Shrewsbury Environmental Commission (EC)
Wednesday, November 14, 2009
Municipal Hall, Sycamore Avenue, Shrewsbury, New Jersey

Present

Jill Gwydir, Chairperson
Sue Binns, Member
Deidre Derasadourian, Member (PB Liaison)
Patrick DiBello, Member
Jay Eaton, Member
Leslie Eaton, Member
Patricia Kurdyla, Member (8:05 p.m.)
Kathy Loder-Murphy, Alternate Member #2
Hermann Allen, Associate Member *
Robin Blair, Associate Member *
Jeff DeSalvo, Associate Member *
Don Burden, Council Liaison *

Absent

* Non-voting member

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Chairperson Jill Gwydir began the meeting at 7:37 p.m. by leading the Pledge of Allegiance and reading the Presiding Officer's statement in compliance with P.L. 1975 c.231, the Open Public Meetings Act. Roll call was taken by Mrs. Milnes.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM OCTOBER'S MEETING

Dr. DiBello made a motion to approve October's meeting minutes with the following corrections; Dr. DiBello is no longer PB liaison. Mrs. Derasadourian has been named full member, and will assume responsibilities as PB liaison. In Section III, Item "F," main reason boro is not accepting batteries at DPW is Monmouth County Recycling has stopped collecting batteries for reasons mentioned. Ms. Binns seconded motion with corrections noted.

II. REVIEW OF ZONING AND PLANNING BOARD MEETINGS/SITE PLANS

Planning Board – Mrs. Derasadourian reports that last two meetings about K. Hovnanian's proposed development has been cancelled. Next meeting is scheduled for Dec. 16th.

Zoning Board – No report at this time.

III. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Newsletter** – Mrs. Eaton forwarded rough copy of EC article to members for review, final copy must be in by Dec. 10th for January issue of newsletter. Information on changes in DPW services will not be included unless confirmed by Councilman Tom Menapace.
- B. Website** – Mr. DeSalvo is updating EC website on regular basis. He has included battery recycling information as well as holiday tidbits. Ms. Blair suggested EC's mission statement be added to website. Ms. Binns suggested an interest form for EC membership be available on website. Dr. DiBello suggested EC minutes and agenda also be included. Mrs. Milnes informed him this information can be found on home page of boro's website.
- C. SBS Environmental Club** – Ms. Gwydir and Ms. Binns report there has been no communication between E. Club and Green Team. E. Club participated in a beach sweep on Oct. 24th with five students participating. It was suggested EC open sweep to boro residents. Clean Ocean Action is offering an educational day at Sandy Hook for environmental clubs. Ms. Gwydir and Ms. Binns will pursue additional information. A possible spring project for E. Club is stenciling storm drains. Mrs. Milnes informed EC of student at SBS who stenciled storm drains as a community service project. She will find out exactly where drains were stenciled. E. Club meets every three weeks.
- D. Rain Garden** – Mrs. Loder-Murphy will follow-up on leads in preparation for spring planting. Former EC chair Kristina Latimer will offer her master gardener expertise to assist in project.
- E. Council Meeting** – Dr. DiBello attended meeting, there were no EC concerns. Mr. Eaton attended Sept. 9th meeting and reported funds will be going to DPW. Ms. Blair asked about \$150,000 + bond former Councilman McGuire obtained which was slated to go toward rain garden, wash bays and general improvements at DPW. Ms. Gwydir will ask Boro Administrator status of bond.
- F. Greenhouse Gas Grant** – No additional information has been received. Ms. Gwydir will follow up with Izzy Grieco, assistant to Boro administrator.
- G. Dogs in Parks** – Ms. Binns and Mrs. Eaton have prepared a rough draft letter to Councilman Burden stating EC's opinion and concerns on allowing dogs in boro parks. Mr. Burden reports that boro attorney is collecting ordinances from surrounding communities for reference.
- H. Ft. Monmouth Update** – Councilman Menapace has requested water testing results from Baseline Environmental Evaluation.
- I. Sustainable NJ** – Ms. Gwydir reported on program initially studied by former chair Latimer. Ms. Gwydir refreshed EC's memory of certification program for municipalities sponsored by League of Municipalities. If boro wishes to participate in program, resolution must be passed by council, and then boro must register with "Sustainable NJ." One requirement is "green team" be established made up of members from Council, PB, Finance and EC. This program is a significant undertaking but could open boro to grant money. Ms. Gwydir will check with mayor of Middletown and Ms. Loder-Murphy will check with mayor of Oceanport, both towns are registered in program.
- J. DPW** – Mr. Allen is concerned with new "straight through recycling." Do residents have containers big enough for combined recyclables? What exactly can be mixed together? How will this information be disseminated to residents? Council has not had discussion on how information will be passed along to residents. Mrs. Eaton reported DPW is doing an excellent job cleaning up Manson Park. They are pruning trees, weeding and widening pathway.

Another concern is when DPW ceased the collection of batteries; the container was taken away without any explanation left in its place. Residents continue to leave batteries at DPW anywhere they can.

H. Next Meeting – Scheduled for December 9th.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. DiBello made a motion to adjourn meeting at 9:00 p.m. Ms. Binns seconded motion.

Susan Milnes, Secretary