



*Environmental Commission (EC) Meeting Minutes - February 23, 2010*

**Members Present:**

*Barbara Daniello  
Ken Skillender  
Wilma Hutton  
Larry Belikoff  
Brian Zucker  
Jay Arancio*

**Others Present:**

*Carol Hoffman  
Harry Fuerstenberger  
Steven Spayd*

**Absent:**

*Elana Zucker  
\*Barbara Patterson*

Meeting called to order at 7:34 PM by Brian.

**Administrative:**

- Larry will fill in for Elana to take the minutes today.
- Motion to accept January 2010 meeting minutes after adjustment for Alexandria Township - passed.
- Decision to continue with monthly meetings every 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday. No meeting in August. Still up in the air for July and September as to where the meeting will be held since the Middle School will be closed those months. - passed.
- \*Barbara Patterson has informed the committee that she is resigning effective immediately.

**Correspondence:**

Barbara took care of informing us on any correspondence this month. We were notified by the Hunterdon County Department of Parks & Recreation about Earth Day Celebration on April 24<sup>th</sup> at Deer Path Park.

**Old Business:**

- EC Website - Jay has finished the development of the new EC website and has turned over regular maintenance to Larry.
- Community Day update - Snakes and Scales have not returned our calls. Linda Kuhn will not be available for her annual arts and crafts program this year. She will attempt to find a replacement. We are trying to get Barbara Urcina from soil conservation. Jay will contact Rutgers to ask for their participation again this year. Wilma will contact Walmart to attempt to get gift cards for energy saving light bulbs. Wilma purchased ECO Energy challenge game from ANJEC.
- Larry has nothing to report about having a joint activity with Musconetcong River keepers or Southbranch. He will attempt to talk to both organizations.
- Barbara will look into contacting Michelle Gill to see if she is interested in any joint ventures with the Alexandria Historical Preservation commission.

- Brian is waiting for Keith Kiskel's return call to see if he will attend one of our meetings to discuss new requirements regarding recycling and how the EC can help.

#### **Planning Board Report:**

- Michelle reported that the Toll Brothers development off of Route 513 is asking for an extension for one year to complete road to standard above storm drain. This is having an environmental impact on that part of our community.
- A nursing home on Route 513 is considering expanding their facility to include assisted living. They will be unable to pursue this if Highlands is approved.

#### **New Business:**

- Steven Spayd attended today's meeting to discuss the strategy his upcoming presentation to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class of the middle school. How to distribute the water bottles for the testing of arsenic was discussed. Jay has offered to prepare the flyer that will be sent to the parents. The draft will go to the Principal and science teacher. Steve Spayd offered to give out rock and mineral sets as prizes to incentivize the students. The program is scheduled for March 9<sup>th</sup>. A discussion ensued on what to include in our notification to the newspaper about this joint project with the school. An objection was raised about including the special price of ten dollars for arsenic testing that we helped arrange. Some felt that residents of the township that did not have school age children would be upset that the special price for arsenic testing was not being extended to them. There was tacit agreement that the price would be left out of any notification that the EC made to the newspaper, but no vote was taken. Barbara wanted her objection to leaving the price out noted in the minutes.
- Larry agreed to look into monitoring the EC website to see how many visitors we were getting. His objection was relieved when Harry Fuerstenberger (Mayor of township) relayed that it may be possible to fund the continued renewal of the EC website.
- Brian will look into getting details on storm water runoff contained from information in the December 2009 Township Engineer's report.

Meeting adjourned @ 9:10 PM by Barbara and seconded by Larry - passed.  
Amended and approved March 23, 2010. - lab