



Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes - October 27, 2009

Members Present:

*Ken Skillender
Donna Maglione
Barbara Daniello
Wilma Hutton
Michelle Garay
Larry Belikoff
Brian Zucker*

Others Present:

Curtis Schick

Absent:

Jay Arancio

Meeting called to order at 7:29 PM by Barbara.

Administrative:

- Motion to accept September 2009 meeting minutes by Ken, seconded by Donna.

New Business:

- Candidates for Township Committee Member were invited to address the EC and township residents to speak about what they perceive as the challenges our Township will be facing and how they plan on being a part of these challenges.
 - Curtis Schick presented first and provided a high level overview of his campaign items.
 - Gabriel Plummer did not attend.
- DEP Presentation - Steven Spayd, a Hydro geologist with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection gave a presentation on the well water in our community and the natural presence of arsenic and other materials present in our water. The presentation began with an explanation of the hydrologic cycle, detailing how well water is part of the hydrologic cycle. Steven spoke about water quality, the Private Well Testing Act (PWTA) and the impacts of data from 2002-2007 for Alexandria Township. Statistics from the study revealed the following:
 - Volatile Organics 0/285 = 0%
 - Nitrate 2/285 = 1%
 - Gross Alpha 3/185 = 2%
 - Arsenic 64/218 = 29%

Note: instances/residential home sites = % of impact by material

The presentation was informative with Steve providing suggestions to the EC on how to bring awareness to the importance of testing for arsenic and other elements. Barbara mentioned that the EC hosts a well water testing event which occurs around the annual Community Day event in Alexandria. Steve suggested several other options that would help bring awareness such as; the EC hosting a week-long event for well water testing; advertisement of the event through communication from the Mayor's office and or the through the township school system. Another suggestion from Steve - utilize the Mayor's office and township schools for communication to the residents, distributing that communication in the format of letter). Steve also made a point around timing of such an event, avoiding holidays, conducting the event during a convenient time of the year. Steve offered his services in the way of providing additional suggestions and advice regarding such events; along with any questions that may arise concerning arsenic and well water testing. Steve's email address: steve.spayd@dep.state.nj.us.

The EC will follow-up with Steve regarding access to materials presented at this meeting and for possible posting to the EC website.

Meeting adjourned @ 9:02 by Barbara and seconded by Larry.