

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

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(Approved at February 3, 2011 Meeting)

Minutes of January 6, 2011 Re-organization Meeting

The reorganization meeting was called to order by Dorothy Hunter, Secretary of the Environmental Commission. In attendance were Leon Lakritz, Vicky Binetti, Harry Larzelere, Jodi Smith, Russ Price, Ann Culkin, Ed Andricola, Michael Keating, Chet Nawoyski, Lola Pellegrino, Rich Fini, Council liaison Daniel Morley, and guest Regina Kukola, Americorps Watershed Ambassador. Minutes of the December 2, 2010 meeting were approved as read. Vicky Binetti abstained.

First order of business was to open nominations for Chairman. On a motion made by Ann Culkin, seconded by Harry Larzelere, Leon Lakritz was nominated for the position of Chairman. With no other nominations, the vote was unanimous in favor of Leon Lakritz to be Chairman of the Environmental Commission.

Leon Lakritz then asked for nominations for Vice Chairman. Jodi Smith nominated Vicky Binetti. His motion was seconded by Harry Larzelere. There were no other nominations. Unanimously Vicky Binetti was voted as Vice Chair. For the position of Treasurer, Harry Larzelere was nominated by Ann Culkin. The nomination was seconded by Lola Pellegrino. No other nominations for Treasurer were presented, and Harry Larzelere was unanimously voted Treasurer. Dorothy Hunter was reappointed by Chairman Leon Lakritz to continue as secretary of the Environmental Commission.

Leon Lakritz introduced our new Council Liaison, Daniel Morley. Members of the Commission presented a brief overview to Mr. Morley of the Environmental Commission's activities and events.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Harry Larzelere reported that we have a temporary budget of \$700 for 2011. We had a balance of \$14.86 in our 2010 budget.

Old Business

Township Clean Up Day

Ann Culkin announced that thank you letters went out to the Clean Up Day participants.

Recycling

Vicky Binetti, as a promotion of America Recycles Day on November 15th, was able to enlist the help of five dry cleaners in the Township who agreed to recycle hangers between October 15 and November 16, 2010. Three of those five dry cleaning establishments were able to provide an estimate of the number of hangers they were successful in recycling. She suggested that we reach out to Township residents by utilizing the Township website to promote recycling and encourage businesses who currently recycle to continue their efforts.

Wellhead Protection

Vicky Binetti had no new report. She reiterated the importance of our vigilance on wellhead protection areas in order to protect our future water supply.

WTEC Planning Calendar

Leon Lakritz added Earth Day on April 16th and Township Clean Up Day on October 8, 2011.

Earth Day 2011

Ann Culkin and Chet Nawoyski will meet in the coming weeks with school officials to discuss the poster contest and the requirements for participation. Energy conservation and recycling were suggested as possible themes for the contest. Students in the fourth grade will be permitted to enter the poster contest. Posters will be displayed and winners will be announced in the Park at Earth Day.

Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement

We are currently anticipating a Township energy audit in 2011. Vicky Binetti explained to Mr. Morley, our new Council Liaison, the basis for the Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement and brought him up to date on our endeavors.

Guest Workshops

Chet Nawoyski and Vicky Binetti are working on ideas for 2011.

Stream Sampling

This event is tabled until we can locate another means to facilitate since the schools have suspended funding for faculty participation through the Triad program.

New Business

Goals for 2011

Vicky Binetti asked the Commission to give some thought for possible projects for the new year.

Wal-Mart Grant Application

Ann Culkin remarked that she completed an application for a community action grant sponsored by Wal-Mart in conjunction with Township Clean Up Day to be held in October.

Delaware River Basin Forum

Vicky Binetti will be sending reminders to the Commission for an upcoming seminar on March 10th, sponsored by the national Source Water Collaborative. The Delaware River Basin Forum, which will be held simultaneously at eight locations in the Basin and which will also be broadcast live on the web, is focused on sustaining drinking water resources in the watershed. Locally, forum sites include Philadelphia and Rowan University.

Planning and Zoning Boards

Rich Fini provided the following information:

- Planning Board 12/7/10 – No new applications. Several resolutions were approved including Zanger, Marc Backal, 416 Ganttown Road, LLC, and Turnersville Partners, LLC.
- Planning Board 12/21/10
 - Turnersville Ford-Lincoln, 3641 Route 42. Expansion of site.
 - Summit Health-Virtua for signage. This was postponed.
- Zoning Board 12/13/10
 - Suters, 317 Pine St. Use variance for a four-lot subdivision. Postponed until further notice. There are public concerns on this application.
 - Borodin, 8 Bedlington Place. Bulk variance amended for backyard pool. Received approval.
 - Nesmith, 429 Hurffville-Grenloch. Use variance for tennis court and fence. Received approval conditioned on applicant presenting a site plan and setting forth a safety plan.
 - The following resolutions were approved: Signage for Advanced Auto (3941 Route 42) and bulk variance amended for Magitti, 8116 Richmond Drive.

Heim Property

Michael Keating addressed some issues regarding hunting and trash on the Heim property. Since this is privately-owned property, the Environmental Commission has no authority to intervene. It was suggested that Mr. Keating bring his concerns to the owner.

Committee Reports

Open Space

The number one goal of the Open Space Committee for 2011 is to plant 500 new and replacement trees on open space property. Harry Larzelere announced that the cost will be fully paid out of the Tree Trust fund.

Council Report

Daniel Morley, Council Liaison, had no report. The last Council meeting was the reorganization meeting on January 2, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Submitted by:

/s/ Dorothy Hunter

Dorothy Hunter, Secretary
Washington Township Environmental Commission