

STANHOPE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Regular Meeting

MaY 12, 2011

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 7:40 P.M. by John Rogalo, Chairman.

SALUTE TO FLAG

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE: In compliance with the New Jersey Assembly Bill No 1030, notice for this meeting was sent to the *New Jersey Herald* and the *Daily Record* on January 17, 2011 and was posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on January 18, 2011.

ROLL CALL: Present: Lorraine Bender, Cathy Flanigan, Nicole Member (8:45 P.M.), Owen Newson & John Rogalo. Absent: Janice Hunts,

OTHERS PRESENT:

Council Persons Rosemarie Maio & George Graham, and Brian McNeilly, Administrator

OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

Cooperating with the Administrator and Council members, Mr. Rogalo identified an incident that had occurred when he had contacted NJDEP regarding another matter, on May 9th. He was put into contact with Mr. Dennis Contois, head of Permitting, Land Use Regulation of NJDEP. Mr. Rogalo then wrote a letter to Mayor & Council detailing this conversation. A copy of the letter Mr. Rogalo sent is attached, and made a part of these minutes.

Per instructions from Mr. Contois, which was explained in Mr. Rogalo's letter, the members of the Commission agreed to send a letter regarding same, to Mr. Contois, on motion by Ms. Bender, second by Ms. Flanigan. U. C.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes of the April 14, 2011 will be submitted by Janice Hunts, when she returns from vacation.

CORRESPONDENCE:

4/29/11 – Memo from Wakefern Food Corporation to New Jersey Mayors & Environmental Commissions Re: ShopRite Earth 2010 Newsletter

Recd. 5/2/11 – Advertisement from Concrete Washout Systems

5/10/11 – Copy of ltr from John Rogalo to Stanhope Mayor & Council Re: Ltr to be sent to NJDEP for permission to work on the trail along Musconetcong River

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Recd. 5/12/11 – Memo from Stanhope Land Use Board Re: Grafe Car Carriers (Block 11701, Lot 9) Variance Application #11-02

CURRENT ACTIVITY

Earth Day & Arbor Day Ceremony - April 30, 2011. Mayor Kuncken noted some information regarding the planting of a swamp white oak tree (3-4" caliper, 10-12 ft. tall), in the park for Arbor Day. Then work continued on Salmon Memorial Park Cleanup, Maintenance and Trails work – Approximately 15 people joined to help with the work to be done. The trail is well-defined.

Owen Newson and Janice Hunts had presented the proposal of the trail plan and clean-up to the Borough Council. Nicole Member attended Council Meeting as well. The plan was to clear the trail from where we left off last year. However, the Commission had been informed later by Mayor & Council to work only on the areas that are state-owned. That is to clear where two trees had fallen near the Musconetcong River. The part of the trail which crosses Block 11203, Lot 4, and the Stanhope Firehouse was stopped because of a letter from Drew & Staci Santucci, which Mr. Stein forwarded to Mayor & Council, as well as all EC members and Shade Tree Commission members. The Council had approved the plan and will assist by having the DPW with wood chipper set-up near the Plaster Mill. John had suggested using shrubs to help delineate the trail along Furnace Pond to where the private property starts.

An indirect action to this letter, and a follow-up letter from John Rogalo, to the Mayor and Council was discussed (as noted under Open Public Discussion).

Tri-town Trails Committee – Mr. Newson said there is nothing further to report at this time.

As an aside, Mr. Rogalo suggested we should try to get the gazebo which is located on state lands, near the former Casperson house near Waterloo Village to be used for Lake Musconetcong Park.

Recycling Initiative, Valley Road School– There was no report. Ms. Bender said she would contact Barbara Utz for the latest info.

Publicity – Ms. Member not present for this portion of the meeting, so no report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Stanhope Day – Mr. Newson said he would try to contact Brian Morrell re doing a walking tour along the Canal as an added event for that day.....Ms. Bender told the members that Michael would not be able to supply tarps for that day, because he had mistakenly promised his sister she could use them for her garage sale planned for that weekend. However, Ms. Hunts said she had contacted Paula Murphy regarding the problem, who said not to worry because the Chamber has tables and

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tarps, and they arrange to pay some high school boys to help set them up. Ms. Maio said she didn't think so. Ms. Bender said she would contact Paula Murphy.....Mr. Newson said he has the display boards to be used for that day. It was decided to use pictures taken on the Earth Day cleanup.....Mr. Rogalo said he and Ms. Member had been working on an idea of handing out trail maps, and giving out at least 5 gift certificates to people who could identify the spots along the trail that he and Nicole would pick out. Members felt that there is a small supply left of the trail maps that were printed up previously – perhaps Janice Hunts knows where they are.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

BILLS: Lorraine Bender gave Nicole Member the money for her receipt for the water on Clean up Day. The money was received from the Petty Cash fund in town.

LIAISON REPORTS

Minutes for Council and Commissions are on the Web Site

Board of Health – Ms. Flanigan – No report.

Mayor & Council – Ms. Member not present at this time. No report.

Lake Musconetcong Regional Planning Board (Min. Recd. 5/12 for 3/16/2011 mtg.) –

Budget was adopted. Mr. Rogalo said the recent fish kill did not kill any trout.

The problem was caused by a bacteria that lives on the bottom of the water chestnut. Mr. Rogalo further discussed the possibility of selling the proposed dredging material which would be removed from the lake, because it was tested and found to be clean,

Land Use Board (Min. on Web Site) – Ms. Hunts not present. However, Ms. Maio discussed briefly the application, copy of which was received at our meeting.

Musconetcong Foundrymen Historical Society – It was reported that Michael Bender and Paula Murphy attended a Council meeting when they asked the town for a resolution to allow the Society to use the Borough's name to apply for grants, without making the town liable for funds, unless the Society contacts the town first.

Musconetcong Sewerage Authority – Mr. Rogalo said the Lake Hopatcong Marina owners now control the amount of water to be drained from Lake Hopatcong, which affects the flow of water to be used by the MSA. They have been in non-compliance for awhile now. If they are forced to upgrade, the project would be very expensive for users.

Recreation Commission – No report.

Shade Tree Commission – Ms. Hunts absent. No report.

Plaster Mill - Mr. Rogalo. No report or updates.

Big Tree Contest Planning - Mr. Rogalo. No report.

Water Quality – Mr. Rogalo – No report

BACK BURNER

Clean Communiities Cleanup Day – September 24. No report.

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ERI Committee working with Council – Ms. Bender, Ms. Hunts, Ms. Member. No meetings set.

ADJOURNMENT: On motion by Mr. Newson, second by Ms. Member, at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Bender