



BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

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Minutes of Regular Meeting
Shrewsbury Environmental Commission (EC)
Wednesday, January 9, 2008
Municipal Hall, Sycamore Avenue, Shrewsbury, New Jersey

Present

Kristina Latimer, Chairperson
Sue Binns, Member
Patrick DiBello, Member (PB Liaison)
Stella Fotopoulos, Member (9:00 p.m.)
Jill Gwydir, Member
Patricia Kurdyla, Member
Christine Gallagher, Alternate Member #1
Hermann Allen, Associate Member

Absent

Douglas Hartmann, (ZB Liaison)
Robin Blair, Associate Member*
Cecilia Kodama, Associate Member *
Don Burden (Council Liaison)*

* Non-voting member

Chairperson Latimer began the meeting at 7:35 p.m. by reading 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 DECEMBER'S MEETING

Ms. Gwydir made a motion to approve December's meeting minutes with following correction: In Section III, Part "A," under Global Warming heading, fourth bullet, there is **NO** charge for ANJEC's "Green Living" traveling display. Mr. DiBello seconded motion with correction noted.

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

Planning Board

Mr. DiBello reported there are no environmental issues at this time.

Zoning Board

Mr. Hartmann was attending rescheduled ZB meeting and therefore, unable to report. Plans were received for Bl. 66, Lot 9 (102 Sunnybank Dr.). Mrs. Latimer will look at drawing package, Mr. Hartmann will brief EC at Feb.'s meeting.

III. REORGANIZATION

It was unanimously approved to keep monthly meeting dates on second Wed. of each

month. Meetings will continue to begin at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Allen pointed out incorrect titles on EC roster. Mrs. Milnes will correct roster and forward update to members as well as borough clerks.

IV. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Global Warming

- Mr. Hartmann, Mr. DiBello, Ms. Binns and Frank Clark (DPW) will travel to Stockton State College for training in conducting an energy audit in February.
- Mr. DiBello has reserved ANJEC's traveling display for April 26, 2008 in conjunction with EC's Computer/Electronic recycling Day.
- Mrs. Latimer and Mr. DiBello met with Dr. Judith Kramer seeking advice on how to proceed in developing a sustainability report. Dr. Kramer suggests EC break process down by listing steps, beginning with accomplishments, i.e. computer/electronic recycling day and an energy audit (in process). EC then must set environmental initiatives. Mrs. Latimer and Mr. DiBello will prepare spreadsheet detailing accomplishments and environmental initiatives.
- Montclair Sustainability Report – Mr. Allen feels report is well worth reading, and re-reading. Ms. Gwydir commented on “pay as you throw” policy as well as bike and walking lanes. Mr. DiBello will find out what Chatham, MA charges for disposal of bulk trash. Mrs. Latimer and Ms. Gwydir will speak with DPW regarding bulk pick-up days.
- EC discussed Mr. and Mrs. Kodama's Oct. 18, 2007 letter to Mayor and Council regarding Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement, and how to proceed in developing plan, as requested by Mayor Siciliano.

B. Waste Audit Report – Nothing to report at this time.

C. Shrewsbury Borough School Environmental Club

First meeting is scheduled for Jan. 31, 2008 for both age groups (K – 4, and 5 – 8). Mrs. Gallagher will coordinate younger grades, and Ms. Binns and Ms. Gwydir will coordinate older grades. EC is pleased with support from Superintendent Larry Ambrosino. Mrs. Gallagher reported that Massachusetts EPA website has provided her with great material and ideas.

D. Recycling Containers

Discussion continued on more noticeable recycling containers at Patterson Ave. field. Ms. Gwydir has been in touch with Bob Wentway (DPW) regarding prices. She will check into grant money. Mrs. Latimer commented on recycling containers at Fair Haven and Meadow Ridge fields. There are app. 75 garbage and recycling containers (55 gal.) throughout both parks, costing \$65.00 each. Discussion will continue at Feb.'s meeting on how to proceed.

E. Vermicomposting

Mrs. Latimer spoke with MCPB's Jim Brown regarding smell. He says smell can be controlled by limiting amount of food. With this in mind, perhaps bins can be brought back into 5th grade classrooms. Mrs. Latimer will speak with Mary Ansell, coordinator of in-school programs.

F. Computer and Electronic Recycling Day

Mrs. Fotopoulos offered excellent suggestions for creating a fair type event. Suggestions were; “green” dry cleaner, organic lawn maintenance, geo-thermal company, solar panel company, hybrid cars, SBS and RBRHS Environmental Clubs, recycling and composting displays. EC wants to incorporate children as much as possible in event. EC members were assigned a suggestion or two and will report back with additional information at Feb.'s meeting. Discussion will

continue regarding getting tee shirts for EC members and perhaps environmental friendly water bottles and/or fluorescent light bulbs to hand out. Last year's signs will be used and request will be made for Firehouse marquee to advertise event.

G. Goals and Objectives

Along with goals already stated by Mrs. Latimer, waste audit report, and advising PB on lighting ordinance will be added. Additional objectives are pay-as-you-throw policy, water testing and integrated pest management.

H. Regional EC Meeting

Meeting centered on informative discussion on lighting.

I. NJ DEP Water Conservation Program

Program has been approved by Council.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Kurdyla made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m. Mrs. Fotopoulos seconded motion.

Susan Milnes, Secretary