

Minutes for the Environmental Commission

March 10, 2011

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 pm by Chairperson Cathy Urbanski.

In attendance: Baldino, Hall, Neufeld, Slowick, Smith-Casey, Urbanski, Van der Veen

Absent: Fisher (TC liaison)*, Piel

*Note: Liaison Fisher briefly attended the meeting to provide an update on Sustainable Jersey for Solar.

Approval of minutes

The Commission minutes from the January 13, 2011 meeting are still pending. The Commission minutes from February 10 were reviewed and approved.

Opportunity for public comment

There were no members of the public present for comment.

Business

1. “Celebrate West Amwell” Country Fair

The EC needs to have a table with educational materials for the fair which will take place on May 14, 2011.

The Commission discussed having a nature based scavenger hunt on the grounds of the fair.

The Commissions discussed what things that participants could be expected find on the site of the fair. Leaves, flower, stones, and moss were proposed as items for the hunt. The Commission also discussed a few natural items that could be “planted” such as pine cones, feathers and acorns. Chairperson Urbanski will bring a list to the next fair meeting.

2. Sustainable Jersey

Summarized the progress to date (see table next page).

The Commission discussed elements such as recycling, the anti-idling education and enforcement program, the open space plan, and the tree ordinance. The requirements for certification for those elements need to be reviewed in the Sustainable Jersey website.

The Commission also discussed strategy around the use of the “other” category for some elements and recognized that this category should be used carefully since it can be used only twice and does not provide the most points toward certification.

Liaison Fisher dropped in on the meeting to report that the energy audits conducted on the firehouse would count toward the certification.

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Element	Member(s) Responsible	Points	
		Available	Achieved
Green Team	Cathy, Charity, Cindy	10	
Energy Audits	George	20	
Wind Ordinance	Cathy	10	
Sustainable Land Use Pledge	Joan	10	
Farmland Preservation Plan	Cathy	10	10
Environmental Commission	Cathy	10	10
Natural Resource Inventory	Cathy	20	20
Open Space Plans	Art and Becky	10	
Clustering Ordinances	Cathy	10	10
Community Forestry Plan	Karen	20	
Tree Hazard assessment	Karen	10	
Tree Protection Ordinance	Cathy	10	
Recycled Materials and Composting	Jeff	10	
Recycling Depot	Jeff	10	
Solar	George	10	
Sustainable Master Plan Element	Cathy	10	
Stream Corridor Ordinance	Cathy	10	
Sourland Alliance	Cathy	10	

Note: Elements in **BOLD** are designated as high priority

3. **Renewable Energy Ordinance**

Member van der Veen raised concern over the height allowances for wind generator towers allowed in the current version of the renewable energy ordinance.

The Commission reviewed some example photographs into which example wind towers have been drawn. No conclusions were reached.

4. **Training Video**

Chairperson Urbanski reminded the new members to review the training video regarding Commission members' responsibilities and expectations.

Opportunity for public comment

There were no members of the public present for comment.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:00PM.

Minutes prepared by Jeffrey Slowick.