

**West Amwell Township  
Environmental Commission  
November 12, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Chairperson Cathy Urbanski.

In attendance: Charity Hall, John Hoff, Dan Longhi, Robyn Myhre, Rob Piel, Cathy Urbanski, Ron Shapella, Joan Van der Veen.

Absent: Joel Coyne, Carol Cavanaugh

**Approval of Minutes**

On a voice vote of all ayes, the minutes from 10-08-09 were approved.

**Opportunity for Public Comment:** no members of the public were present.

**Old Business**

**Green Team and Sustainable Jersey** – Deferral to next meeting for updates from Joan and Cathy.

**Greenhouse Gas Reduction Grant** – Discussion that the application has been submitted, but we have not heard if we have been considered for the grant.

**WAT Elementary School Artwork** – The Art teacher is considering a “sculpture” composed of items that would ordinarily be discarded. She wants to do a tree, but contact with her has been difficult. Cathy will try to follow up with her.

**Shoprite Donation** - Charity had contacted Shop Rite for donations of reusable shopping bags for WAT elementary students. The Commission decided to include the 262 children and 45 staff members in this request. Cathy will prepare a letter, get Township Committee approval and Charity will hand deliver the letter.

**Environmental Impact Statement** – The Planning Board requested the EC to produce an EIS. John and Cathy had prepared a draft based on Readington Township’s EIS. A lengthy discussion followed and the Commission agreed on a draft to be sent to the Planning Board (attached to these minutes). The EC also decided to request that the following be added to the “checklist”: Chapter 138: Soil Removal, Chapter 109:142-145, Critical Environmental Areas, Slope Disturbances.

**New Business**

**1. Stream Corridor Amendment** – Cathy suggested that it would be a good idea to include the updated requirements for Trout Maintenance streams. The 2007 Flood Hazard Area Rules included both the definitions for Category One Streams (Alexauken Creek) and Trout Maintenance Waters (Moore’s Creek). Rob suggested that the EC use a single source and the

Commission agreed that the Flood Hazard rules would suffice so as not to confuse the applicant (current reference to Cat One streams was from Stormwater Management). Members agreed and the EC will seek to amend the Stream Corridor Ordinance to reflect this.

**Opportunity for Public Comment:** no members of the public were present.

A motion to adjourn was made and on a voice vote of all ayes, the motion passed and the meeting ended at 9:25 pm.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

This Environmental Impact Statement shall consist of an inventory of environmental conditions present on the site that is subject to a land use application, and an assessment of the environmental impacts of the proposed action. It shall address the following:

- A. All adverse environmental effects that cannot be avoided should the proposal be implemented, providing alternatives to the proposed actions;
- B. The relationship between local short-term uses of the environment and the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity; and
- C. Any irreversible or irretrievable commitments of resources that would be involved in the proposed action should it be implemented.

The Environmental Impact Statement shall include a written and graphic description of the following:

### **1. Critical areas**

- a. Stream corridors
- b. Waterways and streams on site including steep banks, springs and streamside vegetation and mapping of 100 year floodplain
- c. Location of water courses on site and classification under NJDEP Water Quality Management regulations;
- d. Wetlands
- e. Mature woodlands
- f. Steep slopes, 15 percent or greater
- g. Areas identified as suitable habitats for rare, threatened or endangered species using NJDEP Landscape Mapping prepared by a qualified environmental consultant
- h. Highly erodible soils
- i. Areas of high water table
- j. Mature stands of woodlands and other native vegetation
- k. Ground water and surface water recharge areas
- l. Any other environmentally sensitive features not addressed elsewhere in the EIS.

### **2. Onsite soils and soil conditions**

- a. Describe capabilities and limitations including depth to seasonal high water table
- b. Describe topography and the geologic formations and features associated with the site, including depth to bedrock conditions (provide cross-sectional drawing(s) of elevation of bedrock as encountered in all test pits and borings)

### **3. Potable water supply**

- a. Identify the location, depth, capacity and water quality of all existing wells on the site.

- b. Locate all wells within 500 feet of the proposed development site
- c. Project water demand and supporting standards for the proposed development
- d. Document aquifer yield to support water demand
- e. Assess in a draw-down study or map the development's impact on existing wells and surface water within the geologic formation
- f. Provide NJDEP certification of adequacy for proposed water supply for the development plan including 50 or more dwelling units and/or other high-demand commercial and agricultural uses.

4. **Existing land use impacts**

Identify the following:

- a) Any existing sources of groundwater pollution on-site and within 200 feet of the subject property.
- b) Any past or present use that involved the disposal of solid waste or toxic or hazardous materials, such as a dump, disposal site, or manufacturing operation.
- c) Impacts of past or present uses on the site's environmental characteristics.
- d) Portions of the site located within a historic district or sites identified as historic according to the West Amwell Township Master Plan.

5. **Traffic study**

- a) Provide a study on current motor vehicle traffic volume including capacity of road(s) serving project and nearest major intersection(s).
- b) Provide assessment of impacts on motor vehicle traffic from the proposed project.

6. **Wastewater management**

- a) Estimate the expected quantity and type of wastewater generated from the proposed project.
- b) Describe how the proposed project complies with the Township Wastewater Management Plan.

7. **Permits**

- a) List any permits required for the proposed project from federal, state, county, local or other governmental agencies.
- b) Provide copy of application (if application has been made), and the current status (action pending, under review, comments returned, issued, etc.).

8. **Other information**

- a) List all environmentally protective measures that will be utilized should the proposed project be implemented.
- b) Describe:
  - 1) any adverse environmental impacts from the proposed project
  - 2) measures taken to mitigate those adverse impacts
  - 3) any positive environmental effects and public environmental benefits from the proposed project.
- c) List all sources of information in bibliographic form utilized in preparation of the EIS.
- d) List all agencies and individuals from which pertinent information was obtained orally or by letter.

- e) Provide a copy of all agency-related correspondence utilized in the development of this EIS.
- f) Provide a log indicating the dates, times, weather conditions, and specific site locations of the on-site testing or inspections required for the preparation of this EIS.
- g) Provide the author's Statement of Qualifications for all professionally prepared documents.
- h) List the qualifications of experts preparing reports and data contained in the EIS-
- i) Provide certification by the individual or entity preparing the EIS that the information contained in the EIS is accurate and complete.