

Pittsgrove Township Environmental Commission Minutes for Meeting of February 26, 2007

1. The commissioner called meeting to order at 7:36pm.
2. The pledge to the flag was given.
3. The Open Public Meetings Act statement was given.
Adequate notice pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act has been given of this meeting by:
 - a. Forwarding notice thereof to Today's Sunbeam and the Daily Journal, both of which were printed in the January 10, 2007 editions.
 - b. Posting notice thereof on the community events bulletin board at the Pittsgrove Township Municipal Building, and
 - c. Filing notice thereof in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.
(All of the above was done at least 48 hours in advance.)
4. Attendance – Kevin Garrison, Trish Jankauskas, Bob Morse, Meghan Hack, Herb Wegner, Linda DuBois.
5. Bob Morse made a motion to approve the minutes as written of the January 22, 2007 meeting. Trish Jankauskas seconded the motion. All approved.
6. Unfinished Business
 - a. Redevelopment Area –
Bob Morse volunteered to work on the Brownfields committee with the Economic Development Committee. Bob reported that Frank Pace brought up at the Planning Board meeting that we need a Brownfield grant for the redevelopment plan (134 acres). The application has to be in by March 31st.
 - b. Ordinances –
 1. Tree Ordinance – Now on indefinite hold. Dennis Miranda is giving us a model woodland protection ordinance.
 2. Wellhead Protection (nothing to report at this time)
 3. Threatened & Endangered Species- Bob stated that we need to identify these items in the Conservation Design ordinance and EIS recommendations to the Planning Board.
 - c. Conservation Design –
3rd meeting held January 29th. Herb and Bob were in attendance. Herb summarized the concept of CD for members that haven't been able to attend meetings. Until this ordinance goes into effect, clustering is the ordinance that is followed concerning new developments. Herb reported that Dennis Miranda was concerned over the contiguous farmland and forest that is being fragmented

by the process of allowing the development. He recommended that we do a build-out analysis. We haven't done this since 2000 and our zoning has changed since then. We can then analyze the many affects of that possible population. Clark, Caton, and Hintz did the last report; the Township is seeking them out to do this again. They have also worked with us on COAH. Dennis suggested that we get other organizations involved with the Township (DEP, Nature Conservancy, etc.) Franklin Township has adopted the CD ordinance into their Master Plan. Herb is working with them and trying to learn from any of their mistakes with the intention of making sure ours is as good as it can be.

d. Subdivision applications – none that we know of at this time.

e. Open Space

1. Farmland PIG Status

- a. Schroeder – Survey Complete; expect closing in March
- b. Tamagni – Surveyor began February 20th
- c. Kibort – Arranging meeting with attorney
- d. Petronglo – Meeting with Herb tomorrow
- e. Olbrich – Meeting with Herb tomorrow

2. Green Acres and other Open Space

- a. Renwick – Reappraisal to be done
- b. Briar Hill – no action currently
- c. Running Deer – SCIA meeting; there is currently a sign out in front that appears to be a developer
- d. Danna Property – working with GA for reappraisal
- e. Centerton Lake – Meeting with HOA. GA is negotiating with the homeowner's association.

7. Report on area meetings:

- a. February 6th – Herb attended the County Cross Acceptance Meeting. Pittsgrove is zoned differently than most of the other 16 municipalities in Salem County. Pittsgrove is mostly (96.5%) zone 4B and 5, rural-environmentally sensitive, and environmentally sensitive. In addition to the 3000 acres of parks, most of the remaining land is environmentally sensitive.
- b. January 25th – Tom Figlio and Herb Wegner attended the Water Allocation Workshop at Ramada Inn. Herb reported that it was extremely educational and he recommends that we attend if the presentation is given again in the area.

8. New Business:

- a. Discussion of local dams and rivers.
- b. McClintok property: 16 acres is for sale. It would be great to preserve the forest and sell the house with a reasonable lot size.

- c. Cluster Ordinance Issues- Planning Board's Township Ordinance Subcommittee is to meet the week of 2-26 to confirm the exclusions of Wetlands, Wetland Transition Areas, Farmland Buffers, and Drainage Basins and other infrastructure in calculating lot yield. Also recommended is the exclusion of those areas in any portion of lots. Farmland buffers are apparently omitted in some ordinances.
 - e. Possible Downzoning- it is coming to the Township Committee's Ordinance Review Committee
 - f. Conservation Design – Sally Birdsall, Dennis Miranda, Herb Wegner, and Debby Turner-Fox met to discuss CD Update on process to be presented to PB.
 - g. Quorum issues discussed
 - h. Salem County Watershed Task Force- Bob is considering joining. EC has funds that he could use to join.
9. Upcoming events/meetings/training:
- a. March 17th - Gardening for Wildlife 9 am to 12 noon- Clayton
 - b. Meghan asked the group if we should get the same presenter for Pittsgrove Day- the group decided yes.
 - c. ANJEC resource center has items for use with school students. Trish is going to email Julie Lange at jlange@anjec.org for ideas. Sustainable Living poster would be good for Pittsgrove Day.
10. Issues before the Planning Board: none at this time
11. Communications: none at this time
12. Member Comments: None at this time
13. Public Comments: Linda DuBois mentioned that in the new USDA Farm Bill there should be more funding coming through National Resource Conservation Service.
14. Bob Morse made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meghan Hack seconded the motion. All approved. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.