

**Pittsgrove Township Environmental Commission
Minutes for Meeting of June 23, 2008
7:30 PM at the Municipal Building**

1. The commissioner called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.
2. The pledge to the flag was given.
3. The Chairman gave the Open Public Meetings Act Statement
Adequate notice pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act was given of this meeting by:
 - a. Forwarding notice thereof to Today's Sunbeam and the Daily Journal,
 - 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. Members in attendance were Herb Wegner, Bob Morse, Trish Jankauskus, and Meghan Hack. Others in attendance were Linda DuBois and Mayor Pete Voros.
5. Bob Morse made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2008 amended with a change under item 12. Yvette is the supervisor of math and science for the entire Pittsgrove district, not just for Schalick. Meghan Hack seconded the motion. All approved the minutes as amended.
6. Unfinished Business
 - Ordinances
 - Cluster Ordinance – The Planning Board voted at their June 4th meeting to include the EC's recommendation to not have any portion of wetlands, wetland transition areas, agricultural buffers or drainage basins on residential lots. Herb handed out copies of that ordinance.
 - Conservation Design – Awaiting Cluster Adoption. Bob suggested that we look at the EIS before moving on Conservation Design.
 - Build-out Analysis – Awaiting Township decision. It is on the Township Committee agenda on June 24th. The analysis should get underway on July 1, draft by fall 2008.
 - Open Space
 - Farmland Preservation Plan still awaiting SADC comments.
 - Agricultural Advisory Committee met on June 11th. They presented a plan that the Jewish Federation of Cumberland County has been working on to create the Alliance Heritage Center in Norma to celebrate the Jewish families who came to Brotmanville-Norma area in the 1870s. The Federation is hoping to refurbish and restore homesteads and include preserved farms.The are a number of interested farm owners calling about preservation.
PIG Status

Schroeder – Auction slated for Fall 2008
Kibort – New appraiser being hired
Petronglo – No response to offer
Green Acres and other Open Space
Renwick – Talked to owner – wants large offer
Running Deer – GA talking with bankruptcy attorney
Danna Property – Linda DuBois, Rob Zest, and Herb Wegner attended a meeting on June 12th in Bridgeton on various programs to stabilize farms from eroding and recharge the local watersheds. The 30 acre Danna property will not remain a farm, but we can plant native grasses. The property must be owned for one year, and then we can obtain money to plant native grasses. The grass would attract grassland birds and other wildlife back to the area. Birds that were once native have left due to habitat destruction.
KMRC – Held up for renters
Garrison Property – part was sold to Bifulco and another owner (unknown)
Willow Grove Lake – we have no new news about the dam. The owner on Pittsgrove side of the lake has offered to donate 1 acre to the Township if it could be turned into a public boat ramp.
Road Cleanup – Rescheduled for July 12th at 7:30 am. Meghan cannot make it. Bob, Herb, Tom, and Trish can.

7. Report on area meetings/training/events

May 22nd – Bob Morse attended IPM Training and earned a certificate as an IPM Coordinator. Bob sent Connie an email requesting his approaching the Township Committee on July 22nd. Jane Nogaki will be in attendance to present ideas and answers to any questions. He is proposing that we try this with Deer Pen Park and has requested EC members to attend the meeting.
June 11th – Annual Appraiser Seminar was held at Mercer County College by the State Agricultural Development Committee. Herb Attended.
June 12th – Conservation Practices

8. New Business:

Planning Board Chairman stated at a recent meeting that Pittsgrove does not have an Environmental Commission. Herb wrote a letter to the PB Chairman informing him that the EC is in the Code Book – Chapter 13. We are not a governing body; but it is our responsibility to report to the PB and Township Committee any issues/recommendations that concern the environment in Pittsgrove.
Herb filled out the paperwork to pay our dues to ANJEC.
New Fast Track Bill Legislation may get pushed through.
We really need members! Meghan and Bob contacted three people that expressed interest on Pittsgrove Day. We reminded them of tonight's meeting, and the schedule for all meetings.

9. Upcoming events/meetings/training: nothing to report at this time

10. Issues before the Planning Board

Heinle Property – Bob drafted the letter about environmental concerns of the property and it was sent to PB on June 16th

Draft Cluster Ordinance- Paragraph G2 and Q do not seem to be in synchronized.

Paragraph Q may still need to be revised to match G2. Bob has a copy and will read the document and get back to Herb with his comments. They will make comments to Bill Horner on behalf of the EC. Bob Morse made a motion to ask Bill Horner to clarify paragraph the excluded lands for lot yield and the possibility for residential lots to include drainage basins. Trish seconded the motion. All approved.

There is still a position open on the Planning Board meeting for a Township official. Also Miles Jackson will be resigning. This makes two openings.

11. Communications – none at this time

12. Member Comments

Bob Morse stated that NJDEP Landscape project has been updated with more recent sightings and it is worth taking a look at. He has filled out paperwork for his Eastern Box Turtle sightings.

13. Public Comments - none at this time

14. Meghan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:46. Bob Morse seconded the motion. All approved.