

Pittsgrove Township Environmental Commission Minutes of the Meeting of May 19, 2008

1. The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.
2. The pledge to our flag was given.
3. The Chairman gave the Open Public Meeting Statement
4. Members in attendance were Herb Wegner, Tom Figlio, Bob Morse, and Meghan Hack. Also in attendance were Cheryl Reardon of ANJEC, Linda DuBois and guest Chic Jansky to take minutes.
5. Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes as written with changes gob to job and numbering from items 6 down. Moved by Meghan Hack, seconded by Tom Figlio, and all approved.

6. Unfinished Business

Ordinances: Cluster Ordinance – The Planning Board is discussing the inclusion of Duplex homes in the ordinance. They are to be an esthetically pleasing style, and the owners must have an income. Some of these type homes can be seen in Mullica Hill on Rt.45 near the Post Office. We are still trying to have the ordinance include our prohibition of wetlands, wetland transition areas, agricultural buffers and drainage basins being in any part of a residential lot.

Build-out Analysis – There will be a new water quality management directive from the State which may require larger lot sizes in some parts of the township in order to protect our water quality. New guidelines should be out by mid-June.

Brochure – The new EC brochure was distributed at Pittsgrove Day and people seemed very interested.

Open Space- More landowners are showing interest in preservation. The Garrison property on the east side of Centerton Road reportedly sold to the Fazio family of Washington Township. The property on the west side of Centerton Road was reported going to be purchased by the Bifulco family of Pittsgrove.

Parvin State Park will stay open till October 2008 and funding will be reviewed. Tent camping may stay open. No employees have been let go to date.

7. Report on areas meetings/training/events: Pittsgrove Day was a great success. Approximately 3000 people attended. The fireworks display by International Fire Works received good reviews. The Birdman display by Dorchester's Steve Serwatka, was enjoyed by adults and children as well..
8. New Business
Conservation Design – We received an ANJEC grant two years ago to create a CD ordinance. The ordinance would help to protect our natural resources, such a specimen trees or large stands of desirable trees. CD allows us to include natural resources in our design of development rather than destroying them. If we create a CDO we will receive a

\$10,000 grant from ANJEC. This ordinance requires a mandatory pre-conceptual walk of the property in question.

We have a new secretary, Mr. Charles J. Jansky – “Chic” [856-358-8311](tel:856-358-8311)/cjjansky@aol.com

9. Upcoming Events/Training

Thursday May 22 - Free IPM training at Gloucester County College from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. Bob Morse plans to attend, and we hear that some Pittsgrove school principals are planning to attend also.

Wednesday May 21st from 2 to 3:30 pm at Cumberland County College, the South Jersey Bay Shore Coalition will present the proposed Scenic Byway from the Delaware Memorial Bridge to the Cape May Lewes Ferry terminal. This will help bring tourism to the area and will teach people about the history and culture of the area. The route will include farms and fishing villages among other attractions.

10. Issues before the planning board –Bob Morse said that 16 acres next to Kevin are slated for subdivision into three lots. However, there should be a 500 frontage on any arterial road such as Porchtown Road, which would limit the subdivision to a total of two houses instead of three. We also think there should be a tree survey, and a survey of wildlife as barred owls supposedly have been sited on the property. Bob and Tom will look into this. Meghan Hack moved that we send a letter on this to the Planning Board. Tom Figlio seconded the motion. All approved.

11. Communications – NONE

12. Member Comments:

Bob said that he thought residential lights should be kept as low as possible. He also suggested that we get students to come to our Environmental Commission meetings. (Woodstown H.S. has an environmental club.) Linda Dubois said that Yvette Dubois is the supervisor of math and science for all Pittsgrove Township schools. Herb will look into having the High School involved. There could be contests to name trees, and possibly wildlife. Students are more likely to listen to their fellow students.

Herb was concerned about development in high water recharge areas. We must get the concept of conservation design to the Planning Board. We want them to understand that our goals are to have this as part of the Master Plan.

13. Public Comments – NONE

14. The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 pm upon motion by Megan Hack, seconded by Bob Morse, and a unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,
Charles J. Jansky