

Pittsgrove Township Environmental Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes (Via Zoom Teleconference)
November 27, 2023

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Ron Mc Bride, at 7:43 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was given. The Open Public Meeting proclamation was read. This meeting was advertised in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act.

Ron motioned to appoint Nick as a voting member for tonight's meeting, 2nd by Trish, all in favor.

2. In attendance: Ron Mc Bride, Trish Jankauskas, Nick Mesiano, Fran Spinelli, Fiore Copare, Eileen O'Hara and 1 unidentified attendee.
3. Approval of the Minutes from the October 23, 2023, Regular Meeting: ***motion to approve by Trish, 2nd by Ron, all in favor.***

4. Unfinished Business:

- a. Farmland Preservation Update – Eileen

Sparks & Mihalecz – both in final legal review, both should settle in early 2024.

Stephens – recently visited by Norm Lenchitz and Katie Mazzella, state liaison to the Ag Committee. They discussed what could be done with the property once it's preserved. Information was left with Doc Stephens to review. Application was left open pending his decision.

JWP Properties – family legal issues resolved. Eileen contacted them about moving forward with the application. The committee is awaiting their decision.

- b. Green Acres/Open Space Update – None

- c. Report on Area Meetings, Training, Events

ANJEC Webinar "Protect Open Space and Hazardous Cleanup Funding," Thursday 11/30/23, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

NJDEP Bureau of Sustainability, Tuesday, 12/5/23 10:00 a.m., to register:
gina.gambacorto@dep.nj.gov

Ron noted the Murphy 2024 Budget cuts 60M from these programs.

- d. Newspaper Articles - none

- e. Elmer Lake Fishing Line Container – Ron checked on 11/26/23, container completely empty.

- f. Pittsgrove Day: 5/18/24, may be a 2-day event.

- Native Species Exhibit
- South Jersey Nature Club
- South Jersey Gas

- 8 Exhibit Booth Spaces and Tents.
 - Green Pittsgrove EC Logo Tote Bags – 121 left for 2024, will order more.
 - 1 Rain Barrel and 3 composters for drawing
 - DEP I Education Literature
 - Clean Communities Booth
 - Schalick High Interact Club
 - Potential Candidates for 2024 Resolution of Recognition
 - Ideas, plans or dreams for Pittsgrove Day 2024
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- g. Quarterly road cleanup – Ron will organize outside the meeting since attendance is low.
- h. Radon Awareness Program (RAP) – Eileen has had no activity. Will move alert up on the website again.
- i. Pittsgrove Signage Update
- Mayor Copare will reach out to Harry about installation and advise.
- j. Tire Amnesty – tabled, no market for processing now.
- k. PTEC Zoom meetings will continue moving forward.
- l. Brush Clearing at Green Branch Park – excellent place to walk off the holiday dinners.
- m. Intercoastal Waterway Cleanup – 11/11/23 - Ron, Norm and several others participated. Picked up a dozen bags of trash.
- n. SJLWT – requested a testimonial for their annual fundraiser. Ron will contact them regarding format and provide them with it.
- o. Shred Event – 11/4/23 – 42 residents participated, lots of positive feedback.
5. New Business:

Warehouse Distribution Facility, ANJEC has their warehouse webinar up on their site.

Eileen said the Planning Board Resolution is up on our website. It provides the timeline of discussions regarding the variances requested and their approval.

NJDOH Private Well Testing - Jessie Gleason provided results. 109 wells tested, 26 of them (24%) tested higher than safe levels at the tap. DOH has requested funding for 2024 for more testing. Jessie will keep us informed.

Deer Pen Park flower buffer mowed down. Ron suggested putting up a fence or stakes to mark the area. That could be a project for early in 2024. Members liked the idea.

6. Planning Board Update: next meeting is tomorrow, 11/28/23.

7. Correspondence – none

8. Member Roundtable:

Ron noted that new member James Sheff hasn't attended any meetings. Eileen said he was appointed in July 2023. She sends him all the information about the meetings, and he never

responds. Ron asked if there was an address for him. Eileen will check his original application and let Ron know.

Nick is still working on his "Mystic Flower Garden." He had 700' of zinnias this year and plans to double that next year. He uses paper mulch; no chemicals are used.

9. Public Comments: None
10. Budget 2024: Members discussed the next budget and what was spent in 2023. Fran suggested rounding the number up to \$4000.00 and the members all agreed. Ron will provide the CFO with the documents.
11. Adjournment: 8:44 p.m. ***Motion to adjourn by Trish, 2nd by Ron, all in favor.***

Everyone have a joyous Christmas and a Happy Hanukkah!!

NEXT MEETING IS JANUARY 22, 2024 (RE-ORGANIZATION)