

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING

MARCH 13, 2013

The March meeting of the Bass River Township Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:05 P.M..

Helen Hazard read the "Sunshine Law" in conformance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Mayor Deborah Buzby-Cope administered the Oath of Office to Ken Rose who will become a Regular Member and to Henry Bourguignon who will become a 1st Alternate. A copy of each Oath of Office is on file

A roll call was taken, and it showed that Helen Hazard, Paul Chandler, Ken Rose, Edward Truitt, Henry Gomez, and Henry Bourguignon were present. Due to absent members, Mr. Bourguignon was made a voting member. Mayor Buzby-Cope was also present.

With the resignation of Jarrod Miller, secretary, Henry Gomez volunteered to take meeting minutes.

The minutes of the November 14, 2012 meeting were read by Ms. Hazard. A motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Mr. Truitt and seconded by Mr. Bourguignon. The motion was carried, and the minutes were approved as written. A copy of said minutes is on file.

Correspondence: Ms. Hazard read a letter from the State of New Jersey, Pinelands Commission dated November 9, 2012 regarding an amended letter of interpretation #1229, Application #2000-0023.001, Block 96E, Lot 45, Block 95D, Lot 2, Andrews Road, Bass River Township, findings of fact and conclusion, addressed to Joan Krajack & Cecilia Masci of 1 Johnny Drive, Farmington, NJ 07727.

Ms. Hazard then read a Certificate of Filing from the State of New Jersey, Pinelands Commission dated November 20, 2012, regarding a certificate of filing addressed to Patricia M. Groff, Patti's Used Car & Truck Sales stating the application for change of use is complete.

Ms. Hazard then read a letter from the Burlington County Health Department, dated October 30, 2012, regarding an environmental investigation/request (complaint) form/report, reference an oil odors/sheen. The owners are Joseph and Sandy Manecki of 1758 Rte 542. Contact was made with the originator(complainant) David Cope, Bass River/New Gretna Emergency Management Coordinator by the health department. Results of the investigation were included in the correspondence. There was no further

investigation by the Burlington County Health Department as of November 1, 2012. Discussion among members followed.

Resolution 2012-19, Bass River Township setting the regular meeting dates for official action for the Environmental Commission for the calendar year 2013 was received from Amanda S. Somes, RMC, Township Clerk, dated December 3, 2012 and was read by Ms. Hazard.

Ms. Hazard then read a letter of resignation, dated January 5, 2013 from Jarrod Miller resigning as a member of the Environmental Commission. A condition of his employment does not allow him to engage in public office. Jarrod states that he has enjoyed his service to the community.

A letter was then read by Ms. Hazard, from Bass River Township, Office of the Tax Collector, dated February 1, 2013, re: Block 52 Lot 17, stating the taxes are paid to date. This correspondence included a Land Use Application Form, dated February 4, 2013, applicants being John and Kathy Harvey of 88 North Maple Avenue, New Gretna, NJ. Discussion followed. Mayor Buzby-Cope mentioned the Land Use Application was approved.

A letter dated February 28, 2013 via email from Bass River Township Attorney Joanne I. O'Connor, addressed to Mayor Deborah Buzby-Cope and the Bass River Township Commissioners, re: Environmental Commission was read by Ms. Hazard. It addressed the scope and purpose, as well as issues and concerns of the environmental commission that functions as an advisory board.

After much discussion among members and years of questioning as to the Environmental Commission's responsibility, the conclusion is that Chapter 2.12 Environmental Commission needs to be addressed. They are restricting us in our ability to be more pro-active. The by-laws have been in existence prior to Pinelands Preservation. Other entities had been in place and/or evolved, such as the local Planning Board, Land Use Board, Board of Commissioners, Board of Health, Pinelands Preservation, DEP, CAFRA, and EPA.

Mr. Rose has researched the State mandates and has found our by-laws to be deficient with the State mandate. Mayor Buzby-Cope advised she will have the township attorney take another look and, if this is the case, bring us into compliance.

It was also discussed that another aspect of being able to be more pro-active in the environment is to reactivate the Beautification Committee. The committee had fallen off as a result of the lack of interest and the inability to recruit interested members.

A letter of invite from the State of New Jersey Pinelands Commission, dated March 13, 2013, co-sponsored by the NJ Pinelands Commission and the Pinelands Municipal Council, to Municipal Clerks and to be shared with Municipal Officials, was received. A Pinelands Orientation and free dinner will be provided for attendees. This will take place on Thursday, May 30, 2013, 4 p.m.-7:30 p.m., Richard J. Sullivan Center - 15

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Springfield Road, Pemberton Township, NJ. The registration form must be returned by May 20th.

The meeting was then opened to the public.

A motion to adjourn the meeting 8:52 p.m. by Ed Truitt and Henry Gomez.

I hereby certify these minutes to be true.

Henry Gomez
Acting Secretary