

PRINCETON ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Minutes of Meeting of January 27, 2010– 7:30pm
Meeting Room A
Township Municipal Building
400 Witherspoon Street, Princeton

I. Opening Statement

Adequate notice of this meeting as required by Sections 3d and 4a of the Open Public Meetings Act has been provided and filed with the Township and Borough Clerks.

II. Chair Kaczerski opened the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Present were: Kaczerski, Wasserman, Hiltner, Wolanin, Machold, Reeves, Madison, Thoft, Hamilton, Roberts, Martindell and Lempert.

Absent were: Rojer and Eiref

There were 4 member of the public present.

III. Minutes:

A motion was made and seconded and the Commission voted unanimously to adopt the minutes as written and amended.

IV. Discussion and Decisions:

- a) **Resolution for Bass:** Kaczerski said she invited Bass to the meeting to present her with a resolution thanking her for her service to the PEC. Bass was not present and the resolution would be given to her.
- b) **Nominating Committee Report:** Reeves reported that the Commission would like to appoint Wasserman as Chair and Wolanin as Vice Chair.
- c) A motion was made by Roberts and seconded by Machold, and the Commission voted unanimously to appoint Wasserman Chair and Wolanin Vice Chair of the PEC for the year 2010.
- d) A motion was made by Wasserman and seconded by Wolanin, and the Commission voted unanimously to appoint Debra Rogers Secretary to the PEC for the year 2010.
- e) Wasserman introduced the new Township appointed member Victoria Hamilton. Hamilton stated that she just moved here from Colorado, was a corporate attorney and has worked with the Green Building Industry.

- f) A motion was made by Machold and seconded by Wolanin, and the Commission voted unanimously to appoint Thoft and Reeves as the PEC liaisons to SPRAB for the year 2010.
- g) **Westerly Road Church** – Bunn Drive Proposal: A member of the public Dan Haggerty with the firm Stark and Stark said he is the attorney representing Westerly Road Church and they are present to answer any questions the Commission may have as well as to hear the discussion on the new sewer service areas. Wasserman explained that the PEC just received the plans at the start of the meeting and would not be able to review them right away; a subcommittee of the PEC would be doing the review. Kaczerski asked where the church was in the approval process and changes have been made to the plans. Haggerty explained that the application was just deemed complete and they are hopeful to be on the SPRAB agenda in March however the staff reports will not be done by then. Once the staff reports are complete they will be placed on the next available agenda of the Regional Planning Board. When asked about the trees Mr. Haggerty noted that about half of the site will be developed out of the 18 acres and 70% of the trees are intended to be preserved. He said once all the comments have been received the church will then discuss how to address them. He said the church has met with the Stony Brook Millstone Watershed Assoc. and they asked DEP to modify the LOI that was done on October 2007 based on the fact that the wetlands were not delineated. He said they have also been working with the County because the sewer service is crucial to the project; without it the church cannot proceed. There was a discussion about the lots on the ridge whether or not the sewer service area would be possible there. Some of the properties. Lempert explained that the PEC should review the sewer service map and come back to Township Committee with recommendations. It was noted that if there is another meeting setup with interested groups the PEC would like to be at that meeting also – it is best to discussion all the issues at once with everyone there. It was noted that just one or two members from the PEC would attend that meeting. When asked what sort of deadline the PEC was under, Lempert said at the moment there is not a deadline but Township Committee does not want to sit on this too long. The Commission then discussed the homes on the ridge that are slated to keep the sewer service area but are also located within the DEP mandated C-1 preservation district. Lempert explained that Township Committee will send its recommendations to the County and then the County will work with DEP on the mapping. It was decided that the PEC should have its recommendations sent to Township Committee by its February 22, 2010 meeting; however the next PEC meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2010. Kiser noted that Lee Solow the Planning Director would like to have all comments prior to the TC meeting when he will make a presentation on this subject. Wasserman noted that depending how quickly the meeting is setup (by Solow) with the other interested parties, the PEC will work through email or if possible, schedule an earlier meeting in order to finalize its recommendations. If that cannot be done, then the PEC will have to finalize it at its February 25, 2010 meeting.

- h) Lempert noted that the Township is working with the New Jersey Conservation Foundation as well as the Stony Brook Watershed Assoc. to purchase the land owned by the Ricciardi family. She said it is 14 acres of land located off Bunn Drive across from the Lowe tract. She stated that the purchase price is 3.6 million; they have 1.2 million and are applying for a matching grant of 1.2 million and will need to raise another 1.2 million for the purchase.
- i) Lempert reminded the PEC about the meeting on February 1, 2010 regarding leaf pick-up. She said Township Committee received many ideas from the public such as prioritizing leaf pick-up and perhaps having a pace in the Township where leaves can be dropped off. She said Public Works will be there to explain the constraints they are under and to give some of its ideas on leaf pick-up.
- j) **PEC 2010 Goals:** Wasserman said each member should provide timely and regular updates on the topics and goals they are a part of. He also stated that anyone who is not sure of the goals/topics they would like to work on should review the list and get back to him within a week.
- k) **Committees and Projects:** The following people will be working on the each of the Committees listed:
 - i. Storm-Water Machold
 - ii. SPRAB Reeves and Thoft
 - iii. Leaf Mgmt Rojer, Machold, Wasserman, Hiltner, Martindell
 - iv. Develop Review Kaczerski, Thoft, Hamilton and Wolanin
- l) **Earth Day 2010:** Wasserman asked if the PEC should plan something for the Earth Day celebration. He said the Jewish Center is working on a Town wide bike ride. He said this would be a good opportunity to educate the public. It was suggested that the postponed Green Home and Garden Tour take place during this time – people on the bike ride would have somewhere specific to go. It was also suggested that the PEC ask the governing bodies to provide energy usage bills and then talk about what measures can be taken to reduce the usage; or go to the Finance Committee’s of both towns and mandate how they can reduce usage. Kaczerski reminded the PEC that last year they paid \$600.00 to become a member of ICLEI and they are a tremendous resource for this type of information. She said there are ways to gain the energy usage numbers, but there is no one in staff that can be dedicated to do the work. She said someone would be needed to gather the information, input the numbers, run reports, build models, etc. Wasserman asked Hiltner to gather some information and come back to the PEC with a draft report next month. Hamilton suggest April 17 & 18 for the Green Home and Garden Tour, however, it may be the same time as Communiversity.

V. Sustainable Princeton: Wasserman noted that Diane Landis needs an extension of time for the energy audits; the PEC originally agreed to have it completed by the end of February and Diane is asking for an extension until March. Wolanin suggested extending the deadline until April. A motion was made and seconded to extend the energy audit deadline from February until April 2010 – the Commission voted unanimously to approve the extension.

VI. Reports from Liaisons:

- a) **Recreation:** Roberts handed out information on the company that will be building a kiosk at Turning Basin Park. He said the kiosk will be used to get information out about the pathways.
- b) **Shade Tree Commission:** Machold said the STC has purchased a tree inventory program and Greg O'Neill is now working on the tree inventory for the Township, there are approximately 15,000 trees. He has begun in the Riverside area and will work his way around the Township.

VII. Reports from Focus Areas:

- a) ERI: Hiltner said the ERI should be completed at the end of this month.
- b) Hiltner reported that the home energy monitors should arrive within a week or so.

VIII. Adjourn: A motion was made and seconded, and the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Debra Rogers, Secretary

Date Approved: February 24, 2010