

PRINCETON ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Minutes of Regular Meeting of February 24, 2016– 8:00 pm
Meeting Room A, Witherspoon Hall
400 Witherspoon Street, Princeton, NJ 08540

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 municipal Clerk.

II. Glovier opened the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Present were: Walker, Marcus-Levine, Zemble, Glovier, Czarny, Saks, DiFerdinando, Symington and Lempert

Absent were: Fichtenbaum, Spindel and Birge

III. Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made and seconded and the Commission voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

IV. Minutes:

- a) January 20, 2016: A motion was made and seconded and the Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

V. Decision and Discussions:

- a) **Council Update:** Lempert stated that Council is currently working on its goals and priorities for 2016; they are preparing for the expanded recycling program and Trenton Bio-Gas; they are working on the development of a climate action plan; the bicycle master plan; the public works strategic plan; harmonization of the land use ordinance (which is very challenging); and trying to create a walk able community. She stated that Council discussed a possible solar array at the landfill and also solar panels at the spring street garage.
- b) **PEC 2016 Goals & Projects:** Glovier handed out a matrix to the Commission members showing the goals and projects that were discussed at the January meeting. She noted that two major interests were that of climate change and also partnering with other boards, commissions and staff to help achieve goals. The following goals were discussed:
 - i. Supporting Council on Environmental issues and climate issues
 - ii. Increasing sustainable awareness in Princeton (plaques or signage in municipal offices and perhaps YouTube videos.

- iii. Woodfield Reserve; applying for an ANJEC grant for open space stewardship and working with FOPOS on this
- iv. Analyzing the Green Building Checklist – specifically what actions people have been taking and if the list is working or not.
- v. Partnering with Sustainable Princeton on EB Charging stations – Glovier will check with Sustainable Jersey to see if any other municipalities have created these types of ordinances
- vi. Campaign to clean up Lake Carnegie.
- vii. Encourage sustainable building in Princeton

Glovier stated that the goals list seems like a lot but some of the issues will be multi-year goals.

The Commission discussed these items and suggested further that the goals should be broken down further by adding action items.

Lempert stated that Trenton Bio-Gas is set to open in September and this may impact the trash and composting – but this is a Mercer County initiative that may end up being more cost effective for Princeton. Glovier asked that the PEC be kept informed about this issue.

A motion was made and seconded and the Commission voted unanimously to approve the goals and priorities list.

Saks volunteered to be the leader of issue #1 on the goals list; Spindel volunteered for issue #2; Fichtenbaum was voted to be the leader of issue #3; Glovier volunteered for issue #4; Czarny volunteered for issue #5 and everyone would work together on issue #6. It was also noted that when people meet to discuss these issues in smaller groups, the groups should be kept to a maximum of 3 people.

- c) **PEC 2016 Budget:** Glovier stated that the original budget ideas need to be revised based on information that has been discussed. She did note that Deb submitted a proposal for the Green Building Checklist research of \$660.00 and she would like to get that approved so the research can begin as soon as possible. A motion was made and seconded and the Commission voted unanimously to approve the proposal submitted by Deb.
- d) **Stony Brook Millstone Watershed Stream Clean-up:** Pisauro stated that the idea of the clean-up is to get people to come out and help remove trash and recyclables from the site. He said they are thinking about having the event on April 16 from 9:00 am – 11:00 am and/or April 23 from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm. He said a site has yet to be determined. Glovier asked that he get the PEC more information as it becomes available. Czarny asked if there has been an energy audit for the town. Symington stated that SP has completed a fleet

inventory. Czarny said that could be tied to a climate action plan and it would be very interesting to work on.

- e) **SPRAB Applications:** Marcus-Levine stated that PDS has presented an application of the school's Master Plan. She noted that one of the big concerns is the storm water run-off and she pointed out the wetlands on the site. Walker noted that the applicant did not provide any information on the wetlands and that is a big concern. He said it seems like there is a lot of information missing. The Commission discussed whether or not PDS will have to come back to the town for each piece of this plan or whether this will be a blanket approval for all of the proposals. The Commission continued to voice its concern over the fact that there was no LOI submitted or applied for and there is not enough information on the wetlands for them to be able to review properly. It was noted that the memo from the PEC should have harsher language about the wetlands; noting that this proposal is detrimental to the wetlands and they also requested that the applicant submit a mitigation plan. Czarny noted that he doesn't think anyone could make a decision on this application without all of the information. He suggested that the memo should caution the Planning Board on approving this application without all of the information on the wetlands and a mitigation plan. A motion was made and seconded and the Commission voted unanimously to approve the memo with the amendments that were discussed.
- f) **Board of Health:** DiFerdinando stated that some of the priorities of the BOH this year are prescription\drug overdoses; pedestrian accidents; accreditation; 2nd round of the community health assessment; climate and the health impacts; Zika virus; other issues relating to climate change flooding, power outages with concerns for seniors and fragile people. Glovier said the water issue is where the PEC and the BOH really come together. DiFerdinando stated that he would like a member of the PEC attend some of the BOH meetings – Saks volunteered.
- g) **Sustainable Princeton:** Symington stated the SP is working on; EB charging stations; \$20,000 grant for solar arrays; neighborhood ambassadors are currently being launched; green conversations – the next one will be about Climate Action Plan for Princeton; great idea's breakfast will be on 3/15; ABC program (1,000 lbs of plastic has been collected) and developing a work plan.
- h) **Bicycle Master Plan:** Zemble said the group has developed some goals. She also stated that they have collected a lot of surveys asking people what streets they travel on and what streets they would like to be able to travel on. She said the group then rated the streets according to importance.

VI. Adjournment: A motion was made and seconded and the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Debra L. Mercantini

Date Approved: April 27, 2016