

OCEAN TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Regular Meeting

March 1, 2010

7:00 PM

Meeting began at 7:00 PM.

Call to Order – Flag Salute

Open Public Meeting Act – Pursuant to the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Act, sending copies of the notice of the meeting properly provided adequate notice of the meeting to the Times Beacon and the Asbury Park press. Notice was posted on the bulletin board in the Administration Building.

Roll Call:

Members present:	Ed Covitz	Tom Leaming	Bill Rossnagel
	Heide Geary	Don Lippincott	
	Robert Knowles	Pat McCarty	

Members absent: Jack Henderson

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Chairman Lippincott asked for a motion to take action on the February 1, 2010 Regular meeting minutes. Ed Covitz made a motion to approve the February 1, 2010 Regular meeting minutes. Bob Knowles seconded the motion. All in favor: (aye).

Chairman Lippincott reminded the Commission that the correspondence is always available with the Secretary.

OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Lippincott recognized Mr. McVicar of Remington, Vernick and Vena and Deputy Mayor Tredy both in attendance. Both were in attendance to discuss the Tree Ordinance. On February 14th, Pat McCarty sent out an email to all members with questions/concerns of present “draft” ordinance. The commission discussed each question/concern individually. 2 to 2.5 inch is a good general number for shade tree size. Mr. McVicar suggested that the list of principal trees allowable to plant from the Community Forestry Plan be put into the ordinance. Then, if a homeowner would like to plant another species, they would need to request. Discussion took place on who would render the decision if a resident did come in asking to plant another species of tree. The Environmental Commission would like it recommended back to them for review. The Commission discussed tree removal in future major and minor subdivisions versus a single lot owned by a resident in town. Discussion took place on holding residents to different standards than developers. Trees in public right-of-ways should be noted in the ordinance. Mr. McVicar suggested that there be an exemption of lots less than 12,500 SF lots. Tree removal permits were discussed on existing lots with a home. Species that are not considered trees or are “nuisance trees” should be put in the ordinance. Mr. McVicar will contact Scott Taylor of Taylor Design Group and gain input from him as well. Mr. McVicar will revise/update and email to secretary and Ms. McCarty for any comments.

NEW BUSINESS

Arbor Day – Seedlings have been ordered for the school children. Arbor Day is April 30th, 2010. Discussion took place about taking the children on a walk on the rail trail. Secretary will get in touch with Ms. Matorina to see if this would be possible.

March 29, 2010 meeting for Fertilizer Ordinance discussion. Secretary will get in touch with Councilman Spodofora and invite him to the meeting. Publicity will be key in having residents attend. Deputy Mayor Tredy added that the Township Committee is anxious to get a fertilizer ordinance started in our town. Secretary will get a copy of the Stafford Ordinance to all members for review. The Environmental Commission will then gather recommendations and refer back to the Township Committee. Mr. Leaming has spoken with Jean Broadbent and there is room on the TV Channel for an infomercial regarding the use of fertilizers. Secretary will check to see if any of the activist groups to protect Barnegat Bay have something like this available that the Township could show.

Mr. Knowles left the meeting at 8:20.

Mr. Rossnagel spoke briefly to the Commission about the recent earthquakes.

Mr. Covitz made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Geary. Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth O'Connor, Secretary