

EMERSON ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
EMERSON, NEW JERSEY
JUNE 25, 2008

This meeting of the Emerson Environmental Commission was held in the Municipal Building on Wednesday, June 25, 2008. Chairwoman Martin opened the meeting at 7:30 pm. In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the Clerk has notified all officially published newspapers of this meeting, and notice has been posted in the Municipal Office.

ROLL CALL:

Chairwoman Joan Martin – Present
Mrs. Karen Browne – Present
Mr. Tom Browne – Present
Mr. Bob Cohen – Absent
Ms. Danielle DiPaola – Present
Mr. Peter Martin – Present
Mr. Richard Worthington – Absent
Mrs. Lorraine Zoeller – Absent
Councilman Ken Hoffman – Present
Ms. Lauren Lamatina – Student Member – Present
Jane Dietsche – Deputy Borough Clerk – Present
Barbara Looney – Absent

MINUTES:

A motion was made to approve the minutes for the meeting held on May 28, 2008 by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Browne, and carried.

PUBLIC SESSION:

A motion was made to open public session by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Browne, and carried, with no comments.

A motion was made to close public session by Mrs. Browne, seconded by Mr. Martin, and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- ANJEC workshop – Watershed Restoration and Protection – 6/10/08
- Notice from ANJEC – Re: Permit Extension Act
- Notice from ANJEC – Re: Stop Permit Extension – 6/19 & 6/23 in Trenton
- Armed Forces Deployment Ceremony / Reception – 6/10/08
- Tree City USA Bulletin – Issue # 3

COMMITTEES:

- Student Membership / Programs – Ms. Lamatina stated no logo has been designed for the Commission and will work on it over the summer.
- Newsletter & Public Information – Mr. & Mrs. Browne stated they will appear before the Council, in order to get approval for the Farmer's Market, on Tuesday, July 1st. Mrs. Browne will sit down with Chairwoman Martin to get a farmer and local vendors. We would like to use the location behind the Cookie Cupboard on Emerson Plaza West – 4 trains would pass through the area during the hours of 9 AM to 1 PM. Chairwoman Martin and Mrs. Browne will put together a presentation for the Governing Body, and prepare articles for the local papers.

- Development Issues – Mayor Lamatina stated public hearings on Redevelopment will be scheduled sometime in September at the High School Auditorium. The Home for the Armenian Aged will be continued at the Planning Board meeting of August 21st – drainage issues will be addressed – the area is not a Category One waterway, and Mr. Browne commented on the parking of vehicles, on the United Water property, across the street from the High School several times a year. Mayor Lamatina will bring this to the attention of Chief Saudino.
- Pollution Control – no report at this time.
- Wildlife Issues – no report at this time.
- Grant Availability – Councilman Hoffman distributed copies of the grant application with regard to “safe routes to school”, and requested Commission Members review for discussion at next month’s meeting. Mr. Browne stated he reviewed the website, and schools that received grant monies, were small towns with no bussing. Mr. Browne the “safe routes to school” would benefit the school children and residents of the Borough by allowing people to walk more safely. Councilman Hoffman stated that Mr. Scarpa applied on behalf of the Borough for this year online.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Lamatina stated he is requesting the Police Department to enforce the Cigarette Butt Ordinance.

OLD BUSINESS:

Electronics recycling – Chairwoman Martin stated there are number of towns accepting items for this type of recycling, and she will inquire as to how they handle the collection and disposal. Councilman Hoffman stated a State Ordinance is due to be adopted in January 2009. Ms. DiPaola stated that residents are not aware of what must be recycled, even though this is included in the yearly calendar, and requested Mayor Lamatina add this information to the Borough’s website.

Community Garden – no report at this time

Reusable shopping bags – Ms. DiPaola stated she called the corporate headquarters of Stop & Shop, and had no success. Ms. DiPaola also stated she went to the Stop & Shop and keeps missing the store manager. Mr. Browne questioned whether the Chamber of Commerce would be interested in contributing – Ms. DiPaola stated she would ask.

ADDED STARTERS:

Councilman Hoffman stated he has requested Borough Administrator – Joe Scarpa – advise the Commission the type of herbicides and pesticides used on Borough property. Mr. Browne stated his concerns with the types also used by the Golf Course, and the draining into the reservoir. Mr. Browne also stated that Steve Frassa, from United Water, advises that there are heavy metals in water supplies as a result of pesticides. United Water may offer incentives to get people to use non-toxic fertilizers.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Ms. DiPaola, seconded by Mr. Browne, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Martin, Chairperson

Barbara Looney, Secretary