

**EMERSON ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**  
**EMERSON, NEW JERSEY**  
**FEBRUARY 4, 2009**

This meeting of the Emerson Environmental Commission was held in the Municipal Building on Wednesday, February 4, 2009. Chairwoman Martin opened the meeting at 7:35 pm, and welcomed new and reappointed members present – Dr. Nisonoff, Mrs. Pierce, and Lauren Lamatina.

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  
 Ms. Danielle DiPaola – Present – arrived at 7:45  
 Mr. Peter Martin – Absent  
 Mrs. Shirley Michalski – Absent  
 Dr. Phil Nisonoff – Present  
 Mrs. Michelle Pierce – Present  
 Mr. Richard Worthington – Present  
 Mrs. Lorraine Zoeller – Absent  
 Councilman Tom Browne – Absent  
 Ms. Lauren Lamatina – Student Member – Present

**MINUTES:**

A motion was made to approve the minutes for the meeting held on December 8, 2008 by Chairwoman Martin, seconded by Mrs. Browne, and carried.

**PUBLIC SESSION:**

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

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

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Memos from Carol Dray – Borough Clerk – dated 1/7/09 – Re: Appointments of Joan Martin, Michelle Pierce, and Lauren Lamatina
- Memo from Hackensack Riverkeeper – dated 1/7/09 – Re: Category One Waterways
- Article dated 1/28/09 – Re: SWAN Anniversary
- Email dated 2/4/09 – Re: SWAN Anniversary
- Email from ANJEC – dated 1/29/09 – Re: ANJEC's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- Email from ANJEC – Re: Preparing for a sustainable water future – 2/9/09

**VOUCHERS:**

- \$280.00 – ANJEC – 2009 dues
- 40.00 – Hewlett Packard – fax machine

A motion was made to approve these vouchers by Chairwoman Martin, seconded by Mrs. Browne, and carried.

**COMMITTEES:** Chairwoman Martin requested the committee appointments be tabled to our next meeting of February 25, 2009 due to the absence of members.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Bottlecap Program – Chairwoman Martin stated Mrs. Zoeller's husband dropped off a box with a slot for this program, and we will discuss further at our next meeting.

Farmers Market – Chairwoman Martin stated she received a notice for a subscription to the "Farmers Market Today" and feels it is very reasonable. Mrs. Browne inquired as to the status of the budget – we have requested \$9,348 for advertising costs – reusable grocery bags, with the Commission's logo, banners / signs, and the subscription to the "Farmers Market Today". Mrs. Browne also stated the Department Of Agriculture may have grants available for 2009. Chairwoman Martin stated the Commission will be notified when this item is up for discussion at the Governing Body level, and cooperative advertising between other towns, may be an option.

Pedestrian signs – Mrs. Browne stated the signs were returned, due to the missing pieces, and we are awaiting delivery.

Student Essay Contest – Chairwoman Martin stated Commission members should pick their top ten essays and will decide the winners at our next meeting. Mrs. Pierce will recuse herself since her daughter is in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

Eagle Scouts – Chairwoman Martin stated the presentation back in December went very well, and the goal is to have other towns come on board as chapters. Mr. Worthington agreed to chair this committee.

Creative Outdoor Advertising – Mayor Lamatina stated the program has been approved to begin in June – 13 locations including schools – a 10 year contract, and the Borough will have control of the advertising – collection will be included with the Borough receiving some revenue.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Goals for 2009 – Chairwoman Martin stated we will discuss at our next meeting – would like to see the Commission more in the public eye, and raise the level of awareness.

Riverkeeper Program – Chairwoman Martin referenced the memo from the Riverkeeper regarding C1 waterways and they would like to schedule a meeting to further discuss with the Commission, Planning, and Zoning Boards.

Bergen SWAN is celebrating their 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary on February 13<sup>th</sup> in the Hillsdale Borough Hall. County Executives along with other officials have been invited. Chairwoman Martin requested Student Member – Lauren Lamatina – prepare a 3 panel display board with any environmental initiatives we are doing in the Borough.

Safe Routes to School – Chairwoman Martin and Mayor Lamatina thanked Mr. Browne for his interest in this, not only as a resident, but as a Councilman. Many towns have been successful, and we would like to see the children use a safe route to school. Dr. Nisonoff stated a lot of time and effort went into applying for the grant – not only safe routes, but redoing the sidewalks around all the schools, and bike paths.

**ADDED STARTERS:**

Mayor Lamatina stated the Borough will be publishing a new newsletter "My Emerson", at no cost to the Borough, beginning in February to be published every 2 months – this will be a great place to advertise the Farmer's Market.

The Secretary gave Chairwoman Martin applications and plans for Shoprite and the Hackensack Golf Club for amended site plan approvals – both are scheduled to appear before the Board this month.

Mayor Lamatina stated Sal Dinardi has submitted plans for the park in memory of Jim Wagner, behind the Cookie Cupboard, and the new electronic Borough sign has been received.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Joan Martin, Chairperson

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Barbara Looney, Secretary