

EMERSON ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
EMERSON, NEW JERSEY
JULY 23, 2008

This meeting of the Emerson Environmental Commission was held in the Municipal Building on Wednesday, July 23, 2008. Chairwoman Martin opened the meeting at 7:40 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 – Absent
Mr. Bob Cohen – Present
Ms. Danielle DiPaola – Present
Mr. Peter Martin – Absent
Mr. Richard Worthington – Present
Mrs. Lorraine Zoeller – Absent
Councilman Ken Hoffman – Present
Ms. Lauren Lamatina – Student Member – Present

MINUTES:

A motion was made to approve the minutes for the meeting held on June 25, 2008 by Mrs. Browne, seconded by Mr. Worthington, and carried.

PUBLIC SESSION:

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

A motion was made to close public session by Ms. DiPaola, seconded by Mr. Cohen, and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Memo from Stop & Shop – dated 7/9/08 – Re: donation of bags
- Notice from ANJEC – Re: Applications for the 2008 Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards
- Estimates of Costs – Promomentum – dated 7/21/08 – Re: Bags / Banners / Lawn signs
- Tank removal permit – dated 6/30/08 – Re: 76 Chestnut Street
- Application and site plan for the Emerson Hotel – 31 Emerson Plaza East

COMMITTEES:

- Student Membership / Programs – no report at this time.
- Newsletter & Public Information – Chairwoman Martin stated we would discuss the Farmer's Market later on, and is glad to hear that a "cigarette butt" ordinance will be enforced.
- Development Issues – Ms. DiPaola stated the Home for the Armenian Aged is scheduled to appear before the Planning Board on 8/21/08, along with the Emerson Hotel to add an outside dining/deck area with a handicap ramp.
- Pollution Control – no report at this time.
- Wildlife Issues – Mr. Worthington advised the Commission of a family of foxes near the Memorial School, and one approached him near his home, which is a sign that someone

is feeding them. Chairwoman Martin commented on the possibility of them relocating, and signage advising the public not to feed them. Mr. Cohen stated his concerns with children playing in the area, and will contact the State Wildlife Commission for assistance.

- Grant Availability – Councilman Hoffman referred to the “safe routes to school” and will contact Cheryl Schriber, of the Bruno Group, in order to pursue grant availability in the near future – maybe we can invite her to attend an upcoming meeting of the Commission.

NEW BUSINESS:

Pedestrian Signs – Councilman Hoffman stated the street signs are all damaged by drivers and the Borough is considering purchasing new ones. Mayor Lamatina stated additional signs should be included for use near the schools. Councilman Hoffman will contact Sgt. Mottley to discuss the paintings of the crosswalks – the Secretary stated the crosswalks are usually repainted just before school begins.

Bergen SWAN – the recent 4 towns initiative meeting was most informative – representatives from Westwood, Hillsdale, and River Vale were present – and the nature of the meeting was flooding and run-off, and Chairperson Martin addressed the area near the High School – the ditch under the bridge use to be full of debris and fill – the County has been ripping the banks apart due to mosquito control causing serious erosion problems. The plan right now is that the ditch in front of the school will be dealt with – retaining wall and plantings – to prevent flooding and run-off in the area.

OLD BUSINESS:

Energy Audit – Mr. Worthington stated he will meet with Pete Pirrello, of Metro Energy Solutions, to see what we would like to look at next year – the Commission should keep in mind that we need to budget for this in 2009, and follow-up with the State to see if there is any funding available

Farmers Market – Chairperson Martin stated volunteers are need to help set up and clean-up before and after the market – Mrs. Browne stated you need not be there all day – the DPW drops off the barricades, trash cans, and cones on Friday. Mr. Gary Schwinder provided the Commission with samples of banners and signs. The Commission discussed the signage / banners and the positioning on the streets leading to the market. Mrs. Browne will prepare a schematic for the positioning of the vendors / banners, and signage. The Secretary will check with Finance Office to see if funding is available for these purchases.

ADDED STARTERS:

Chairperson Martin requested the Secretary contact the Finance Department with regard to the status of the payment of the ANJEC membership.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Martin, Chairperson

Barbara Looney, Secretary