



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
EMERSON, NEW JERSEY
JUNE 16, 2010

This meeting of the Emerson Environmental Commission was held in the Municipal Building on Wednesday, June 16, 2010. Chairman Worthington opened the meeting at 7:35 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. In case of a fire, follow the Fire Exit signs above the doors to your right and left in Council Chambers, and please exit calmly.

ROLL CALL:

Chairman Richard Worthington – Present
Ms. Margaret Boyce – Present
Mr. Salvatore Dinardi – Absent
Ms. Danielle DiPaola – Present
Ms. Christina Fehre – Present
Mrs. Joan Martin – Present
Mr. Peter Martin – Present
Mr. Bernie Silverberg – Absent
Mrs. Lorraine Zoeller – Present – arrived at 7:50
Councilman Tom Browne – Absent
Ms. Lauren Lamatina – Student Member – Absent

STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST

At this time, Chairman Worthington introduced to the Commission and the public the 3 winners of the essay contest, Tatiana Naumovski, Nicole Hall, and Jazmyn Salazar. Each one read their essay and was awarded gift cards to Barnes & Noble. Chairman Worthington thanked them and the entire 7th grade at the Jr. / Sr. High School for their participation, along with their teacher, Mr. Todd St. Laurent.

MINUTES:

A motion was made to approve the minutes for the meeting held on April 28, 2010 by Mrs. Zoeller, seconded by Ms. Fehre, and carried.

A motion was made to approve the minutes for the meeting held on June 2, 2010 by Mrs. Martin, seconded by Ms. DiPaola, and carried.

PUBLIC SESSION:

A motion was made to open public session by Ms. DiPaola, seconded by Mrs. Martin, and carried.

Ken Hoffman – 61 Emwood Drive – introduced Mr. Ray Cywinski, Manager of the Watershed and Environmental Resources, of United Water. Mr. Cywinski appeared before the Governing Body last evening to seek the Borough's cooperation in a pilot project to stop floatable debris from entering the Oradell Reservoir. The utility is proposing a 30,000 pound, 11 x 11 foot concrete structure to be affixed to a 30 inch pipe that feeds water from Main Street and nearby

areas into the Emerson Woods Preserve – that water eventually reaches the reservoir, often carrying garbage with it. The project would require a crane or possibly an excavator to install. Mr. Cywinski stated that over the years, a lot of floatables (cans, bottles, bags, debris, etc.) come into the reservoirs. The proposed site is approximately 20 feet off Main Street and is one of the few locations where the structure could succeed under the hydraulic demands. United Water would cover the capital costs of fabrication of the structure and installation, while the Borough would be required to provide the maintenance. If the project for any reason failed, United Water would be responsible for the removal of the structure.

Ms. Fehre stated her concerns with the project being out of place since Emerson Woods was a preserve – an eyesore in the middle of the woods where people appreciated the beauty of the area. Ms. Fehre also emphasized that the problem of erosion needed to be addressed and questioned whether someone should construct a big obstruction when they weren't even sure it would work. Mrs. Zoeller feels this is a "model project" that would not work in this part of the country, and further stated that they fought long and hard for this preserve – certain deed restrictions may also apply, which Councilman Hoffman agreed. The Secretary will scan the deeds and forward to all members. Chairman Worthington thanked Mr. Cywinski for his time this evening, and advised Commission members that we will discuss further at our next meeting.

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Memo from Bergen SWAN – dated 6/1/10 – Re: Accomplishments over the past year
- Freshwater Wetlands and Flood Hazard area application – dated 6/8/10 – Re: Valley Brook Golf Course – River Vale, New Jersey
- Email from ANJEC – dated 6/10/10 – Re: ANJEC on Facebook
- Flyer – Shoprite Earth 2010 – Spring / Summer edition
- Arbor Day – May / June 2010 Edition

VOUCHERS:

- \$12.29 – North Jersey Media Group – Re: Rescheduling 6/23/10 meeting

A motion was made to approve this voucher by Ms. DiPaola, seconded by Mrs. Martin, and carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Student Membership / Programs Committee – Student Essay Contest – Mrs. Boyce stated she has contacted the principal at Memorial School for their participation in various projects, such as Earth Day and Arbor Day, and is awaiting her response. Chairman Worthington suggested Mrs. Boyce reach out to Phil Nisonoff for additional help. Mrs. Boyce also stated her son received a package in school from United Water outlining projects. Mrs. Zoeller stated she will email Mrs. Boyce a site for Environmental Sciences curriculum within the State.
- Public Information – Mrs. Martin agreed to put together a flyer & /or press release for the Earth Scouts Program for early August, and forward photos from this evening's essay contest to the school and the local papers.
- Development Issues – Ms. DiPaola stated this week's Land Use Board meeting has been cancelled. The owner of the Sunoco station is supposed to re-submit an application with revised plans to the Board sometime in July.
- Pollution Control – Once again, the Commission discussed the need for additional recycling containers at the ball fields and parks. Ms. DiPaola stated she observed the garbage bag hanging on the side door knob of the puppy shop, and agreed to speak to

the owner of the shop. Mrs. Martin stated her daughter placed a call to the ASPCA because the store was being painted, and the puppies were not being protected. Chairman Worthington stated the area in the small strip mall – stationary store – is looking sloppy, along with the area near Laurel Chinese. Ms. Zoeller stated we may want send letters to the business owners reminding them of trash.

- Wildlife Issues – No report at this time.
- Grant Availability – No report at this time.
- Farmers Market – Mrs. Martin stated she will be contacting the vendors in order to get the registration process started, and would like to see the market advertised on the electronic message board downtown. The Secretary stated she will be on vacation the weekend of June 28th and suggested any fees collected be turned into Cathy Henderson.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Fundraising – Mr. Ray Cywinski suggested the Commission contact Ms. Sonia Clark, at United Water, in order to coordinate the 5K run, due to Mr. Macula being out due to surgery. Ms. Fehre stated she may have a contact with regard to a wholesale nursery.

NEW BUSINESS: Nothing at this time.

ADDED STARTERS:

Chairman Worthington would like the Commission to discuss at our next meeting letters being sent to business owners in town with regard to trash.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Worthington, Chairman

Barbara Looney, Secretary