

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
EMERSON, NEW JERSEY
MARCH 2, 2011

This meeting of the Emerson Environmental Commission was held in the Municipal Building on Wednesday, March 2, 2011. Chairman Worthington opened the meeting at 7:45 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.

At this time, Chairman Worthington welcomed new members, Mrs. Patricia Dinallo, Mr. Tom Reilly, Mr. Neil Schwab, and student member, Alexandra Reilly.

ROLL CALL:

Chairman Richard Worthington – Present
Ms. Margaret Boyce – Present
Ms. Denise Lebrun – Present
Mrs. Patricia Dinallo – Present
Mr. Peter Martin – Absent
Ms. Jesse Maxon – Absent
Mr. Tom Reilly – Present
Mr. Neil Schwab – Present
Mrs. Lorraine Zoeller – Present – arrived at 7:40
Ms. Alexandra Reilly – Student Member - Present
Councilman Tom Browne – Absent

MINUTES:

A motion was made to table approval of the minutes for the meeting held on November 17, 2010 and February 2, 2011 by Mrs. Boyce, seconded by Mrs. Zoeller, and carried.

PUBLIC SESSION:

A motion was made to open public session by Ms. Lebrun, seconded by Mrs. Dinallo, and carried, with no comments.

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Memos from Mayor Carlos Colina – dated 1/25/11 – Re: Appointments of Peter Martin, Jesse Maxon, and Richard Worthington
- Memo from Christina Fehre – dated 2/11/11 – Re: Resignation
- Email from ANJEC – dated 2/28/11 – Re: 2011 Sustainable Land Use Planning Grants
- Memo from County of Bergen, Department of Health Services – Re: 2011 Clean Communities Mini grant Clean Up Program

VOUCHERS:

- \$11.34 – North Jersey Media – Re: Change of meeting date

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Student Membership / Programs Committee – Student Essay Contest – Mrs. Boyce introduced Alexandra Reilly, new Student Member, would like to have an Environmental Fair with all 3 public schools, and invite Assumption Academy. Small pilot projects, awaiting approval from Dr. Taffaro – science, communications, recycling, and literary competitions – for this year and to be implemented for years to come. We will look for donations for advertising and paper, all to be displayed at the Jr. / Sr. High School. Mrs. Boyce stated she would also like to see other school districts participate. The Secretary stated the Jr. / Sr. High School has an Environmental Club and Ms. Kelly Buchta was the teacher who ran it in the past.
- Public Information – Ms. Lebrun stated she will contact Councilman Browne and request a tutorial with regard to the new website. The Secretary stated some employees had training last week.
- Development Issues – Chairman Worthington stated there are 2 pending applications – one for a proposed 7 – 11 convenience store at 129 Kinderkamack Road, and the other is for the conversion of an existing garage into living space at a group home at 22 Clinton Street. Chairman Worthington stated members of the Commission are welcome to attend the Land Use Board meetings to express their concerns with environmental issues on these applications.
- Pollution Control – Chairman Worthington stated 2 clean ups are planned, and will prepare a memo to amend the Bylaws, for the Emerson Woods and Community Police clean ups. Mrs. Zoeller stated as the snow melts, people should do their part to clean up the street in front of their homes – such as old newspapers and debris – that accumulated during the storms. Would like to see an ordinance with regard to political stickers on poles, and garage sales.
- Wildlife Issues – recent coyote sightings in Haworth, and a gentle reminder should be given to residents, perhaps on the Borough website, not to feed wildlife.
- Grant Availability – Mrs. Boyce stated she was suppose to meet with Councilman Browne, and did not get the opportunity – would like to secure local merchants for the Commission and the Environmental Fair.
- Farmers Market – Mrs. Zoeller stated she received the listing of all the vendors who participated last year, and will contact them for 2011 season. The Secretary agreed to forward the Borough logo (seal) in order to go forward. Mrs. Zoeller stated we may want to review the fees – last year \$200 for the season, if prepaid, or \$50 a month – separate fees are due for Health Department inspections. We may change the time from 9 am to 2 pm to 10 am to 3 pm, to accommodate local church services. Mrs. Boyce questioned why the train station cannot be opened during the time of the market – Chairman Worthington stated that property is owned by New Jersey Transit, which was recently renovated. Mr. Reilly stated the station has been opened for the morning commute. Mrs. Zoeller welcomed any personal contacts Commission members have to join the market.
- Bylaws – Chairman Worthington stated he will send an email with revisions to Pollution Control and Grant Availability, to add fundraising. Mr. Reilly requested a copy of the current Bylaws, which the Secretary agreed to email.
- Green Team – Chairman Worthington stated this matter will be tabled to our next meeting, due to Councilman Browne's absence.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS: Chairman Worthington requested nominations for Vice Chairperson of the Commission. Mrs. Boyce nominated Mrs. Dinallo, seconded by Mr. Reilly, and carried. With no other nominations, a motion was made to close the nominations by Mrs. Zoeller, seconded by Mr. Reilly, and carried. Mrs. Dinallo thanked the Commission for the nomination.

Chairman Worthington also welcomed new members to consider volunteering for a Committee, and is more than happy to discuss at our next meeting.

The Secretary presented a voucher from the Peach Council for membership for 2011, which has to do with the Farmers Market. The Secretary stated she will scan and email to Chairman Worthington and Mrs. Zoeller.

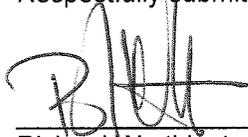
ADDED STARTERS:

Mrs. Dinallo stated she will look into a grant from the Bergen County Utilities Authority, and report at our next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,



Richard Worthington, Chairman



Barbara Looney, Secretary