

**EMERSON ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**  
**EMERSON, NEW JERSEY**  
**MARCH 25, 2009**

This meeting of the Emerson Environmental Commission was held in the Municipal Building on Wednesday, March 25, 2009. 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 – Absent  
Ms. Danielle DiPaola – Present  
Mr. Peter Martin – Present  
Mrs. Shirley Michalski – Absent  
Dr. Phil Nisonoff – Absent  
Mrs. Michelle Pierce – Present  
Mr. Richard Worthington – Present  
Mrs. Lorraine Zoeller – Absent  
Councilman Tom Browne – Present  
Ms. Lauren Lamatina – Student Member – Present

**MINUTES:**

A motion was made to approve the minutes for the meeting held on February 25, 2009 by Mr. Worthington, seconded by Mr. Martin, and carried.

**PUBLIC SESSION:**

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

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

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Invitation from the Bergen County Environmental Council – Re: Meeting 3/31/09
- Email from ANJEC – dated 3/3/09 – Re: Green by Design workshop – 3/30/09
- Email from ANJEC – dated 3/2/09 – Re: Grant applications
- Email from HydroPoint Communications – dated 3/16/09 – Re: World Water Day
- Hackensack Tidelines – Winter 2009
- Bergen County Momentum – Winter 2009
- Flyer – “Green Friends” – The Pascack Sustainability Club

**VOUCHERS:** The Secretary stated there are no vouchers.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- Student membership/Student Programs Committee – Ms. Lamatina stated that a “fake zebra” has been put on the school field, to deter the geese, and they are working on a “fake lion and bear”.
- Public Information – Chairwoman Martin stated we have received an invitation from the Borough of Westwood for their Riverkeeper workshop on March 31<sup>st</sup>. We will be having the same program on Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Development Issues – Ms. DiPaola stated the last few Planning Board meetings have been cancelled. Mayor Lamatina and Councilman Browne updated the Commission on recent meetings with property owners, who have appeared before the Governing Body, and would like to develop their own properties.
- Pollution Control – Mr. Worthington stated he has driven around the Borough and noticed dumpsters not enclosed, as required by Ordinance, at the locations of or near Paint & Paper, and the strip mall behind Paul’s Bagels. Mr. Worthington also noticed outside storage at Quick Chek, and Councilman Browne also commented on outside storage behind the Cookie Cupboard. The Secretary stated she will advise the Building Department.
- Wildlife Issues – No report at this time.
- Grant Availability – Councilman Browne stated he has met with Maser Consulting, and at this point so late in the cycle, we have a 50/50 chance of receiving funds.
- Earth Scouts – Mr. Worthington and Mrs. Pierce both attended the meeting in Hillsdale, “trash to art” – Mr. Worthington’s daughter participated and seemed to really enjoy, and Mrs. Pierce stated it would help existing troops in the Pascack Valley to earn badges.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Bottlecap / School recycling program – The Secretary stated she attended a meeting at the school this past Monday, and Mrs. Rehak stated she has a container in her class room for the students to use. Mr. Worthington would like Memorial School students to participate, and Chairwoman Martin agreed to contact school principal, Mrs. Espinoza. Mrs. Pierce stated she will speak to Mr. Ostrowsky at the Villano School as well.

Farmers Market – Councilman Browne stated Mrs. Browne is still looking for vendors, and those who are on board, are looking to pay for the entire season. The Market will run from the end of June to the end of September.

Pedestrian signs – Councilman Browne stated the signs have arrived, and we are awaiting directions from the Police Department as to where they will be placed. Councilman Browne will follow-up with Joe Scarpa.

Student Essay Contest – The Commission reviewed the final 8 essays, and the top three essay winners are – Christopher Sturm – 1<sup>st</sup> place. Tie for second place is Julia Harada and Aaron Gordon. The Secretary will contact the winners and invite them to attend our next meeting to read their essays, and receive a special gift.

Creative Outdoor Advertising – Councilman Browne stated the next step for this program would be a site survey, and will let the Commission know when it is scheduled.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Nominations for Vice Chairperson – A motion was made by Chairwoman Martin, seconded by Ms. DiPaola, and carried, that Mr. Worthington is named Vice Chairman of the Commission. Mr. Worthington thanked the Commission for the nomination and looked forward to serving the Commission in this capacity.

Town wide clean-up – Chairwoman Martin stated she will contact Officer Mike McDermott to see if a date has been set.

Fundraising – Mr. Worthington tried to reach out to United Water, but has not heard back from them. Mayor Lamatina will put Mr. Worthington in touch with Mr. Joe Macula to possibly schedule a 5k race along Emerson Woods and the reservoir.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Joan Martin, Chairperson

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Barbara Looney, Secretary