

## **Environmental Commission Minutes December 11, 2008**

Call to Order: Rayna Laiosa, Robert Maggio, Patricia Hutzelman, Stacey Fiorina

Guest: Linda Missonellie, Fred Criscitelli, John Bertollo

- I. Attendance and Acceptance of Minutes –November 2008  
Motion by Robert Maggio, Second by Patricia Hutzelman
- II. Water Report Update –October 2008 -- Reviewed and discussed. All water results are fine, below NJDEP water quality standards.
- III. Status Update 2004 Passaic County Open Space Grant
  - a. Update on Grant money - Grant money is available.
  - b. Bird booklet and power point presentation – Waiting for documents from Renee and Krista
  - c. Follow-up on tree inventory of 8 Acre Woods – Phil and Pat are working on the tree inventory. Update in January 2009
- IV. 2009 Environmental Commission Meeting at 7:30 pm– Dates are approved by commissioners.
  - January 8, 2009 (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday)
  - February 12, 2009 (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday)
  - March 19, 2009 (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday)
  - April 2, 2009 (1<sup>st</sup> Thursday –prep for April 4, 2009 Cel-Earth-Bration)
  - May 14, 2009 (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday)
  - June 8, 2009 (1<sup>st</sup> Monday – Annual Environmental Meeting)
  - July 9, 2009 (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday)
  - August 13, 2009 (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday)
  - September 10, 2009 (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday)
  - October 8, 2009 (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday)
  - November 12, 2009 (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday)
  - December 10, 2009 (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday)
- V. Green Idea Committee Meeting Proposed Dates at 7:30 pm Dates are approved by commissioners.
  - January 19, 2009 (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday)
  - February 16, 2009 (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday)
  - March 16, 2009 (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday)
  - April 20, 2009 (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday)
  - May 18, 2009 (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday)
  - June 15, 2009 (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday)
  - July 20, 2009 (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday)
  - August 17, 2009 (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday)
  - September 21, 2009 (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday)
  - October 19, 2009 (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday)
  - November 16, 2009 (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday)
  - December 21, 2009 (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday)
  - a. Sustainable Jersey Certification – Sustainable Jersey grants funded by Walmart. Sustainable Jersey is a certification program for municipalities in NJ that want to go green, control costs and save money, and take steps to sustain their quality of life over the long term. Sustainable Jersey will also provide a package of tools, guidance materials, and resources to help municipalities make progress. NEXT STEP: Register Hawthorne on the Sustainable Jersey website to receive additional information for certification.
- VI. 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Cel-Earth-Bration – April 4, 2009 “Think Clean Get Green”
  - a. Green Project Contest – Rosanne Zagatta is working on it.

- b. School Use Application Form submittal – Needs to be filed in January 2009
- c. Distribution of Carbon Books to school system – Purchased a total of 11 books.

- VII. Status Update Pan Chemical and Mayor's Meeting Friday November 28, 2008 – Rayna, Pat, and Lisa met with Mayor Goldberg, Michael Pasquale, and Councilmen John Bertollo to discuss Pan Chemical. The Environmental Commission requested from the NJDEP all remediation reports and correspondence between Pan Chemical property owners and the NJDEP. The Commission developed an Executive Summary of the history of the property, hazardous chemicals utilized in paint manufacturing, remediation action taken, and environmental concerns regarding the remediation status and the issuance of notice of violation from the NJDEP in September 2008. The meeting went extremely well. The Commission would like to work with the current property owners on the communication on the status of the remediation. As of September 2008, property owners are required to post the remediation status at their site as per NJDEP regulations.

The Environmental Commissioners raised concerns about safety and security of the property. Councilmen Bertollo informed that Pan Chemical will be securing the site, boarding up the building with plywood and paint the buildings.

- VIII. Report from Planning Board - No new issues reported.

IX. Updates on Issues and Commissioners Concerns, Next Steps

- a. Fred Criscitelli, member of the Passaic County Brownsfield Committee, presented information on the Pyrolac Corporation located at 55 Schoon Avenue in Hawthorne. Passaic County Department of Economic Development received an EPA grant to perform a preliminary assessment/site investigation at the site. Dewberry-Goodkind was selected to perform the work in October 2008. However, the work has not been started since the Passaic County has been unable to gain access to the property. In October 17, 2008 e-mail from Wes Hendricks NJDEP to Deborah Hoffman, Director of Passaic County Department of Economic Development, states that groundwater contaminants such as chlorinated solvents, BETX, and solvents were detected above NJDEP standards. It was determined that groundwater at the site flows to the south and the South Wagaraw municipal well field is located less than 2,000 feet southwest of the Pyrolac site. The Pyrolac site was officially abandoned on April 23, 1995 by the Chapter 7 Bankruptcy trustee, Jonathan Kohn of the Law Offices of Rothbard, Rothbard, Kohn & Keller. The USEPA performed a removal action at the site from June 1997 to February 1998. NEXT STEP: Environmental Commission will contact Passaic County Department of Economic Development for an update and offer assistance to the County if needed.

X. **Next Meeting Thursday January 8, 2009**