

PRINCETON ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Minutes of Regular Meeting of September 30, 2015– 7:30pm
Meeting Room A, Witherspoon Hall
400 Witherspoon Street, Princeton, NJ 08540

I. Opening Statement

Adequate notice of this meeting as required by Sections 3d and 4a of the Open Public Meetings Act has been provided and filed with the municipal Clerk.

II. Wasserman opened the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

Present were: Wasserman, Fichtenbaum, Chorney, Walker, Birge, Zemble, Spindel, Marcus-Levine and Landis

Absent were: Molina, Miller and Simon

III. Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made and seconded and the Commission voted unanimously to approve the agenda with the amendment of moving up the Sustainable Princeton report and adding a discussion about “the Study Advisory Committee” as proposed by Council.

IV. Minutes:

a) July 22, 2015: A motion was made and seconded and the Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes as written.

V. Public Comment: Members of the Stony Brook Millstone Watershed were on hand to discuss the various changes that have occurred in recent months and explained new job functions as well as expressing an interest in working more with the PEC and enlisting its help to further engage the public. A few members of the PEC expressed their “most pressing” environmental concerns such as (but are not limited to) plastic bag initiative; development applications and green buildings. Wasserman thanked them for attending the meeting and welcomed them to stay for the remainder of the meeting to hear about other issues the PEC is currently working on.

VI. Discussions & Decisions:

a) **Food & Water Watch Co-Sponsorship:** Food & Water Watch – while The PEC is happy to cosponsor the event on anti-Fracking, no one is available at this time from the PEC to attend / speak.

b) **Update on Sustainability Issues:** The Update on local Sustainability issues was postponed until Steve Hiltner arrived. Once he arrived, both he and John Johnson discussed their desire to have the PEC support the Friends of Herrontown Woods in their efforts to keep a building on Municipal Property (6

acre farm) from being torn down. The PEC recommended that Hiltner draft a letter of support that the PEC will gladly review and vote on.

- c) **2015 Budget:** The PEC wants to “Communicate to the public through environmental Initiatives”. A couple ideas were... a public school contest & buying compost bins. Spindel agreed to start an email discussion to generate ideas... to be voted on at the next meeting.
- d) **2016 Goals:** Wasserman agreed to send out this past year’s goals so that members can comment and be prepared to discuss and possibly align on the 2016 goals at the next meeting.
- e) **Study Advisory Committee:** Marcus-Levine agreed to be the PEC liaison to this newly formed committee. Fichtenbaum, while unable to attend the meetings is also very interested in reviewing documentation and proposals from the committee. Wasserman to let Engineering know of the PEC decision.

VII. Updates and Regular Business:

- a) **Chairs Report:** Wasserman will not be at the Oct meeting.
- b) **Leaf Ordinance Subcommittee:** Karen Zemble will be attending the first meeting of the Municipal Green team in October where she will be advocating for the “leave the leaves” program.
- c) **Broad Waste Management Ordinance:** No discussion
- d) **Communication:** No additional updates from this committee.
- e) **Application Review Subcommittee:**
 - a) **Blue Point Grill Application:** Marcus-Levine presented this application. The PEC was in agreement with the subcommittee’s recommendations but added that the application be contingent on both a proper waste management program and an energy program that would be equivalent to LEED gold.
 - b) **Herrontown Woods Application:** Walker presented this application. After significant discussion, the PEC’s recommendation is to send a letter to both the PB (cc Council) calling out the appalling nature of this proposed development and ask that it be denied outright.
 - c) **Princeton Ridge Application:** Fichtenbaum presented this application. The PEC was in support of the subcommittee’s recommendation. Furthermore, it was suggested that due to the potential impact on the Watershed (this is one of the head waters), this be reviewed with SBMWA as well to determine if they wanted to weigh in.
- f) **Board of Health:** Miller stated that legal has not reported out on the fracking waste ordinance as of yet. Dr. Rojer will meet with EEIc lawyer who has offered to review it. Also, Roundup (245-T) is a probable human carcinogen now and 2,4 d is considered plausible. It was recommended that the BOH contact DPW on this. BOH will be asked to do so.

VIII. Adjournment: A motion was made and seconded and the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra L. Mercantini

Date Approved: October 28, 2015