

PRINCETON ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Minutes of Regular Meeting of October 28, 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 7:33 p.m.

Present were: Fichtenbaum, Chorney, Molina, Walker, Miller, Marcus-Levine, Landis and Simon

Absent were: Birge, Zemble, Spindel, Wasserman

III. Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made and seconded and the Commission voted unanimously to approve the agenda with the addition Liquid Gas Resolution, DEP Water Quality, VOC codes.

IV. Minutes:

- a) July 22, 2015: The minutes were not distributed and there for will be placed on next month's agenda.

V. Public Comment: A member of the public said that the Snowden Lane Development application was discussed at the Planning Board meeting and the issue of water quality was brought up. The applicants came back with a better plan to cluster the development and as a result the sewer system may be extended to Snowden Lane.

VI. Discussions & Decisions:

a) Council Update:

- i. Simon announced that the town has received a grant for covered bike parking and an expanded Bike Share Program.
- ii. Simon noted that the work has begun on the Bike Master Plan and its first public meeting will be held on November 12th.
- iii. Simon updated the Commission in the issue of picking up leaves in carts. He said the DPW Committee determined that there was not enough benefit to the town for this type of pick-up. He said the costs would be too high and there was no compelling case for move forward.
- iv. Landis discussed the municipal green team and noted that the recreation department is mulching leaves in all of the active

parks, mowing the leaves in less active parks and blowing the leaves into the woods in passive parks. Simon noted that a representative is not currently on the Green Team and someone should be appointed. Landis said she would talk to the Director of Recreation about it.

- b) 2015 Budget Allocation Discussion: Chorney noted that the PEC has approximately \$2,300.00 in its budget and asked for suggestions on how to spend the money. The Commission brought forth many ideas such as:

- Green Building Ordinance
- Recycling Bins
- Composting – giving out 30 compost bins
- Art Project
- Give out re-usable bags
- Sponsoring a school garden
- Bio-Swale
- Advertising to educate the public on leaves and various other topics
- Signs for the leaf corrals

It was decided that that there would be more investigation into the bio-swales, advertising and the PEC would make a final decision at its next meeting.

- c) Resolution to not support off-shore liquefied natural gas. A motion was made and seconded and the Commission voted unanimously to support the resolution
- d) VOC Coding: Fichtenbaum noted that it would be great if the BOH would pass an ordinance that limits voc, coding, sealants that are used by developers. She noted that the level of VOC that was used at Avalon Bay was much too high. Simon noted that another way to address this issue could be by assessment of the levels and then mitigation. Miller noted that he will pass this on to the BOH. Simon asked Miller to check with the BOH and see if it is better to pass on ordinance through the BOH or have Council look into passing an ordinance.
- e) Stoney Brook Millstone Water Shed – Healthy Water Issues: Mike discussed the Flood Hazard Act saying that the EPA and FEMA are also concerned about this act. He said it has already passed the Senate and is headed to the Assembly for endorsement. He asked the PEC members to please submit their concerns to their representatives. He said the Water Quality Management Plan rules just released a lot of concerns and this will make it easier to developments to be constructed. Simon asked that they submit some information to the PEC about it. Chorney noted that the PEC is not prepared to make any formal comment at this point but member of the Commission are welcome to submit comments to their representatives as members of the public.
- f) 2016 Goals: Chorney noted that she will compile a list and send it out via email and the Commission can finalize at the next meeting.

- g) SPRAB: Molina said that SPRAB will be holding a special meeting for the Blue Point Grill application.
- h) BOH: Miller said he brought up spraying round-up at the BOH meeting and nothing was done. Simon suggested that he come to the Council meeting and bring it up as a member of the public and discuss the issues with using this product.
- i) Sustainable Princeton: Landis discussed the various programs that they are working on. She stated that they have set up 3 levels of goals for the Municipal Green Team, the Sustainable Living Guide should be finalized in January, neighborhood Ambassador Program is taking off and they have 8 neighborhood ambassadors, they will be having a Great Idea's breakfast", Strategic Planning Session, Wine Tasting fundraiser at Cool Vines on November 7th and she discussed the use of reusable bags at McCaffreys.
- j) Chorney noted that she will be resigning at the end of December.

VII. Adjournment: A motion was made and seconded and the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Mercantini, Secretary

DATE APPROVED: December 9, 2015