

**Environmental Commission
Washington Township (Morris Cty), New Jersey
Minutes of January 9, 2006**

Prepared by: Bob Balsamo

I. Attendance:

Present: Mark Napolitano, Anthony LaVista, Merv Haines, Bob Balsamo, CJ Sinko, Frank Ferraro

II. Minutes of 12/05/05 were approved.

III. Vernal Pool Project Update

Starting the beginning of March, the members of the commission will schedule visits to the vernal pool sites that we have been given permission to visit so that the sites can be observed while the sites are dry and at that time follow-up visits will be scheduled.

IV. Anonymous Letter – Dumping on Frog Hollow Rd.

The Environmental Commission received an anonymous letter informing of alleged suspicious dumping at what is believed to be farming area on Frog Hollow Rd. Mark volunteered to investigate and notify the zoning officer to determine if any violations have occurred.

V. Objectives for 2006

The Commission discussed in further detail the 2006 objectives and the creation of internal by-laws. The consensus of the committee is that creating by-laws that dictate how the commission operates would be helpful not only to the current committee, but useful for future committee members. Mark will contact ANJEC to see if any other township environmental commissions in the State have established by-laws.

VI. Notification of Minor Subdivision. The Environmental Commission was informed of a minor subdivision on Hacklebarney Road by Elegant Homes. No specific issues observed by the commission; however the commission will recommend that the Township consider a “property conservation easement” deed restriction by the Highlands open water buffer line. Merv will discuss this suggestion with the Township contact.

VII. Chairman for 2006-2008

To reiterate a decision made by the Commission at the 12/05/05 meeting that since no present member of the commission wishes to take on the role of chairman, it was decided that we would divide up the duties amongst our members. The duties will be assigned as follows:

1. Chairing the Meetings: rotate alphabetically starting in January (Mark has sent out a schedule)
2. Public contact: Anthony
3. Checking the Mailbox in the Town Hall: will be the responsibility of the person chairing an up-coming meeting

4. Agenda's and Minutes: will be the responsibility of the person chairing an upcoming meeting
5. Laboratory contact for stream testing: CJ
6. Stream Testing Water Quality Report Summary: CJ
7. Preparing the Budget: Mark

VIII.: Next Meeting: 2/06/06, Frank will chair.

IX. Meeting Adjourned.