

**Metuchen Environmental Commission
Minutes
June 17, 2009**

Present:

Pat Donahue
Mark Herzberg, Chairman
Tom Rudel
Will Waldron, Councilmember
Brian Weeks
Steve Toth

Absent:

Mike Vissichelli
Steve Toth
Kathy Busch, Planning Board Liason
Arline Zatz
Ann Sardone

The meeting was called to order at 7:14 pm by the Chairman, Mark Herzberg. The minutes of the May 20, 2009 meeting were approved and accepted.

CORRESPONDENCE

Notice regarding freshwater wetland permits for the McPherson properties located at Amboy and Main.

DEP monthly bulletin, nothing pertaining to Metuchen was listed.

OLD BUSINESS – (this meeting focused on the ANJEC Grant and Sustainable NJ)

ANJEC Grant

A total of \$22,000.00 will be available, \$8,000 from grant, \$10,000 from private donations and \$4,000 from the town to fund the Greenway Extension planning project.

Project will focus on two planning tours and a structured workshop, with a follow-up information meeting in the fall of the year.

The planning tours will be scheduled to allow for maximum participation by the public, weekends and evenings possible.

Information on the tours and workshop will be made available in the local newspapers, the Metuchen website and to the Greenway Group.

The various elements which should be included in the onsite tours were discussed, including such topics as; vegetation, water flow, wildlife, recreational use etc.

Sustainable New Jersey – Metuchen

Metuchen applied for but did not receive its requested \$25,000 grant.

180 towns applied for grants and 14 received Sustainable NJ grants.

During the new two to three months work will be undertaken to have Metuchen “certified as a Sustainable NJ town” by establishing some of the following; a “green” team made-up of local citizens, and goals for the green team, the town and the environmental commission.

Other New Business

Tree pruning – letters have been sent to a residents pertaining to the power company tree trimming. Seventeen complaints have been received on excessive trimming. The power company will have an onsite expert available to answer questions from the public on the project.

Old Business

None.

The meeting ended at 9:46pm.