

**Minutes, Meeting of the Metuchen Environmental Commission
September 21, 2016**

2016	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	SEP	OCT	NOV
	20	17	16	20	18	15	20	21	19	16
M. Herzberg, Chair	A	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
D. Rasmussen, Liaison	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
A. Dohl	M	A	P	P	P	P	P	P		M
J. Schaffer	A	M	M	P	A	A	P	A		
B. Weeks	A	P	P	M	M	P	P	P		
L. Nowak, Planning Bd. Liaison	-	-	-	-	A	A	P	A		
A. Dutemple	P	P	P	P	M	P	A	P	M	
J. Kelly	A	P	P	P	A	P	M	P		

Key: P=Present, A=Absent, R=Resigned; M=Minutes Assigned/Taken.

Mark called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

Minutes of July 2016 meeting

Approved.

Correspondence

There were 3 editions of the DEP bulletin. The August 17th bulletin mentions the Metuchen Realty Aquisition (Gulton site) flood hazard application and site investigation cleanup. The Sept. 7th bulletin references a fresh water wetland application for 80 Orchard St.

A schedule of Greenway Ecotours was also sent to the Commission.

Grant Update

The Commission would like to apply for a grant to catalogue Metuchen's environmental resource inventory and will investigate doing so when appropriate grants become available.

Dismal Swamp

No updates.

Community Outreach

The Metuchen street fair will take place on October 1st. The Environmental Commission will staff a booth and encourage residents to sign up for composters.

Sustainable Jersey

Metuchen's application was submitted on September 11th for a total of 355 possible points to be awarded. Of note is the annual report on Environmental Commission activities that was also submitted as part of the application. A diversity action may also be submitted which will involve an examination of the racial backgrounds of the Commission members to see if they are in line with the Borough's 2010 census data, and to work to reflect the census percentages if needed.

The Sustainable Jersey luncheon is Nov. 15th from 12 to 2 in Atlantic City. Tickets are \$35.00.

With regard to Sustainable Schools, Metuchen School District will be notified in October as to whether Campbell and Edgar Schools have been awarded Bronze status.

Planning Board

The Master Plan Re-Examination Report that was the subject of a July 21st planning board meeting will be discussed at the next Environmental Commission meeting.

New business

The Program for Energy Initiatives was discussed, which is a grant program focusing on renewable/alternative energy projects. Applications are due October 28th. Maximum grant is \$30,000. The Commission discussed several potential projects that the Borough could undertake, including placing solar panels on a municipal building and including a public display board noting energy savings. The Senior Center was mentioned as a good location. Other potential projects are energy efficient upgrades to municipal buildings and creating a micro-grid with charging stations and an emergency natural gas generator.

Greenway Update

The Greenway Coalition has released a schedule of Fall Eco Tours.

Next meeting

Wednesday, October 19th at 7 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.
Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Kelly