

BOROUGH of METUCHEN
Environmental Commission
Minutes of the September 15, 2010 Regular Meeting

A meeting of the Metuchen Environmental Commission was held on Wednesday, September 15 at 7:00 PM at Borough Hall.

Present were: Council Liaison Will Waldron, Chair Mark Herzberg, and members Tom Rudel, Arline Zatz, Ann Sardone, Brian Weeks, Steve Toth and Pat Donahue.

Absent: Mike Vissichelli.

Guests: Girl Scout Troop from Metuchen, and Joe Schafer who leads an environmental discussion group in the area.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. The minutes of the July meeting were approved and accepted.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Flyer regarding the annual ANJEC in October was received
- Letter regarding an application for fresh water wetlands general permit for work on Route 27 and Amboy avenue was received
- Four NJDEP bulletins were received, however nothing pertained to Metuchen.

OLD BUSINESS

Thomas Pond Park – no report

Planning Board – no report

Dismal Swamp – no report

Greenway

Five bids were received for the construction of 3 1/2 miles of the Greenway, contract to be awarded on October 7, 2010.

A meeting will be held on October 4, 2010 to discuss a proposal to provide an extension to the Greenway with the Township Council.

Town Fair

A schedule was developed for staffing the Commissions booth at the fair.

This year displays will focus on the Greenway, energy, and solar power.

Recycling – no report

Edgar School and Pool Parking Lot

Trees are needed to replace those that have died during the summer.
The pool is a potential location for solar panels.

Open Space – no report

Global Warming – no report

Energy Audit

A second examination of the energy audits will occur and will focus on practical applications at the existing locations.

The town is also looking at the availability of state funding for the development of greater energy efficiency in public buildings.

The town has applied for \$20,000 in grant money to be used in the development in implementation of greater energy efficiency in the buildings.

A discussion took place regarding making sure that equipment purchased is the most energy efficient possible. There was also agreement that the county office on sustainability should be contacted for information on grants for energy efficiency projects. If available, these monies could be used toward the new boiler for DPW.

It appears that the Board of Education is looking at using solar power at the High School.

NEW BUSINESS

A number of discussions took place including a general discussion of tax credits, the possibility of meeting with the mayor on the energy audits, and the need for the council to meet with the audit consultants to discuss future needs.

A power point presentation was given by the Metuchen Girl Scout troop related to a plan to cleanup and maintain the trails at Centennial Park.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM. The next meeting of the Metuchen Environmental Commission will take place on October 20 at 7:00 PM at Borough Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

**Stephen Toth
Acting Secretary**

AGENDA

Metuchen Environmental Commission

October 20, 2010

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Correspondence

Old Business

Thomas Park Pond

Planning Board

Dismal Swamp

Greenway

Dog Park

Recycling

Edgar School and Pool Parking Lot

Open Space

Global Warming

Energy Audit

New Business