

Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes

May 2, 2012

Present: B. Albergo, J. Bay, M. Gossett, D. Happer, T. Terhune, A. Rankin, M. Vyff and K. Sheikh

Public Comment: None

Meeting Minutes: Minutes from the April meeting were approved.

Committee and Commission Liaison Reports

Woodlands: Margaret reported that 125 seedlings were ready to plant in new deer exclosures behind the high school tennis courts.

Lakes: Allison reported that the new board installed in the Wildwood dam is still leaking. Nothing can be done until the fall when the water levels are lowered. She also noted that blockage issues exist with the canal between Mountain and Wildwood lakes and apparently, the Borough is going to have to pay to have it cleared of fallen trees post October's storm.

Municipal Solid Waste: The Committee is working on the RFP for the awarding of a new contract by 12/31/12. They intend to address the issue of green bags after a new contractor is hired. The estimate of the incremental costs for backdoor pick up is \$50/household, however, this does not reflect the potential impact of a diminished bidding pool as many contractors don't offer this service. There will be a public forum in the end of May.

Wellhead Protection Ordinance

Members discussed a potential new ordinance. Dan asked that the Commission examine existing zoning restrictions to be certain that a new ordinance is necessary. He felt that the risk that Council could change their philosophy regarding conservation was very low and again, asked about unintended consequences. Khizar agreed to look into existing zoning restrictions on Route 46 development. Another next step was to get a copy of the pending Denville ordinance. The goal remains getting before Council in June to present our POV about wellhead protection.

During the course of this discussion a point was made that the Borough is not testing for PCE levels in our water that is drawn from our primary well that has a stripper to remove contaminants. Todd expressed concern and Margaret agreed to further investigate this point.

Planning Board

John reported that there are no pending applications. Jackie raised an issue that former chair, Sandy Batty, had brought to her attention about the MCPRIMA maps in the NRI being not ideal from a Planning Board perspective. Jackie agreed to follow up with Sandy and inform John so that he can check these concerns with the new Chair, Jim Bailey.

Contaminated Site Monitoring

Todd reported that he will ask the contaminated sites on Route 46 for an update in June and request that the Commission be copied on all such reports moving forward.

New Business

The Commission discussed the pros and cons of trying to organize a Borough clean up before the end of the year. Jackie agreed to look into this project.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 13 – one week late due to vacation schedules.

