



Environmental Commission Virtual Meeting Minutes – November 23, 2020

Present via Zoom Meeting: Ken Miller, Ed Komczyk, Marilyn Quinn, Rich Rodack, Miriam Reichenbach, Russell Price, Eric Agren

Alternate: Carl Ford

WD Twp Representative: Adam Reid

Student Representative: Jake Cobb

Public: None

Guests: None

Call to Order: Miriam Reichenbach called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Important Note – This virtual meeting was changed from 11/16 to 11/23 because of a conflict with another Zoom meeting scheduled for 11/16. The change in date was properly public noticed.

October Meeting Minutes – Draft meeting minutes were reviewed and two revisions were suggested. Miriam made a motion to accept the minutes as amended and it was seconded by Ken. Motion passed by all members via a voice vote with no objections.

Old Business

Township Liaison Report: Adam talked about the four items below:

PFNA Letter – Adam said the township posted a letter on its website clarifying the PFNA result shown on the previously issued Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. After the meeting, Rich sent the letter and the Water Quality Report and a link to the township website to WDEC members.

Action Item – Rich asked Adam to look into whether the township would consider sending out the Water Quality Report clarification letter in its weekly email communications. Adam said he would check with the Deputy Mayor.

Grass Mowing and Wildflowers – Adam investigated planting wildflowers near the open space at the intersection Jessup Road and Parkville Station Road. The township engineer told Adam that a rough cost for the planting may be in the Range of \$15,000. Adam said he would try to get this item into West Deptford's 2021 Budget. He also thought it may be a worthwhile activity and expenditure for the WDEC to consider supplementing from its budget next year. Miriam said that additional information may be gained from persons at the former Eagle Point refinery where wildflowers were planted.

West Deptford Township's Sesquicentennial (150th) Year Anniversary in 2021 – Adam informed the committee that the township would be celebrating its 150th anniversary. As such, the township would be considering various celebrations, perhaps barbecues, tree plantings, upgrading playgrounds and parks, and enlisting students in the efforts. Any planned activities would have to take into account COVID restrictions. Scheduling of activities has not yet been completed.

NJDEP Storm Water Regulations - Adam said he received an email regarding NJDEP's recently issued final regulations for enhanced storm water management. He said the township would need to enact an ordinance by March 3, 2021 in order to comply with the new requirements. After the meeting Rich sent a link to NJDEP's website Frequently Asked Questions regarding the new regulations.

Student Representative Report: Jake said WDHS is currently learning remotely and has also gone to a hybrid approach, depending on students' preference. Fall sports are finishing up.

Chairperson's Report:

Dates for 2021 - Action Item - Miriam asked WDEC members to review the proposed meeting dates for 2021 and let he know of any potential conflicts. She also asked about availability for the next meeting scheduled for 12/21/20.

New Business:

Communication with Residents: Nothing new to report.

LNG Project Update – Rich provided an update saying that DRBC's website stated that its next business meeting would be a virtual meeting on December 9 and that the commission may take action on the LNG project. He also sent an email to WDEC members providing the information. Marilyn said that her friend was going to testify at the hearing and talk about the safety and environmental concerns regarding the proposed project.

Solvay NJDEP Natural Resource Damages Lawsuit – Rich said he emailed the link to the NJDEP lawsuit and the complaint to WDEC members for their information. He also said that NJDEP has issued other natural resource damage claims against other entities in NJ and that NRD claims were not unique to Solvay. Miriam said she thought, unofficially, that Solvay's position regarding the complaint is that others were responsible for the contamination, but she did not know that as a fact. Ed asked Adam if the township was a party to the lawsuit and Adam said the township was not.

RiverWinds Littering – Miriam noted that someone was discarding bread and rolls at RiverWinds across from the senior center and other RiverWind locations.

Action Item – Miriam asked Adam to look into the matter with appropriate township departments to determine if any action should be taken.

Grants: No new ones.

Planning Board

Eric and Adam provided feedback on the WDEC comments regarding the proposed Colonial pipeline project and said that the concerns raised in the letter would be addressed by Colonial pipeline.

Eric provided an update on the proposed amendment to the Gloucester County Solid Waste Management plan regarding the use of dried sewage sludge as daily cover at the county's South Harrison landfill. He said public meetings and additional information regarding the proposal could be found in the email he sent to Rich that was subsequently forwarded to all WDEC members. Carl raised a concern regarding the use of organic materials such as dried sludge as cover material because the organic components naturally degrade over time. Eric noted that the cover material will be a blend of dried sludge and dirt as a stabilizing material and that the mixture was approved by NJDEP. Miriam voiced a concern regarding the transport of the dried sludge via trucks from the Gloucester County Utility Authority plant to the landfill, and the potential with material spilling onto area roadways.

Action Item – Eric said he would relay Miriam's concern about the potential for dirty roads from the transport of the dried sludge to the appropriate parties.

Financial Report: Ken received reports from the township showing a Trust Fund balance of \$10,904.65 and WDEC account balance of \$3,977.09

Public Comment: None.

For the Good of the Order: Miriam wished everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving.

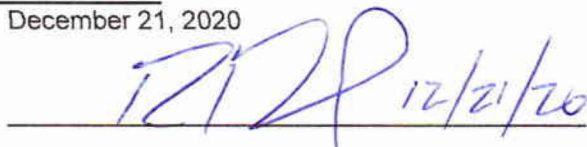
Adjourn:

At 8:18 PM, Miriam made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Russell. Motion passed with no objections.

Dates to Remember

December 21, 2020

EC virtual meeting, 7:00 p.m.



Signed and submitted by Richard Rodack, WDEC Secretary