

**Woodstown Pilesgrove Joint Environmental Commission  
Woodstown Borough Hall  
October 8, 2009 Minutes**

**Present:** Jean Jack, Paul Langley, Ervin Parker, Richard Pfeffer, Francis Rapa,  
John Ronafalvy, Bill Stoms, Jr, Rob Waddington

**Absent:** Andrew Grosik, Bob Howell, Phyllis Sauler,

Secretary Jean Jack called the meeting to order, stating that adequate notice of the meeting was provided by notifying Today's Sunbeam and posting in Woodstown Borough Hall and Pilesgrove Township Municipal Building.

**Minutes** of September 10 were approved on a motion by Bill Stoms/Paul Langley.

**Correspondence**

Notice of the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Environmental Congress on Saturday, October 17 at Cook College, New Brunswick. Any member planning to attend should make his/her own arrangements.

**Subcommittee Reports**

Applications coming before the Pilesgrove Planning Board at the October 21<sup>st</sup> meeting: The Delaware Memorial Industrial Park, Block 45, Lots 1 and 7, on US Route 40 – the presentation will be limited to one hour; Ott, Block 19, Lot 1.03 on Lincoln Road- for preliminary major subdivision approval; Pierson, applying for a Use Variance (not for a heliport); and PANDA-completeness review for a solar farm on Avis Mill Road in Yorketown.

**Old Business**

Pilesgrove Light Pollution Ordinance-an ordinance has been developed using the JEC sample to update the existing ordinance. A draft ordinance is ready. Upper Deerfield has also used the JEC sample ordinance to develop a local ordinance.

Annual Report-Ervin Parker discussed the report. He will incorporate 2008 and 2009 actions into one report. He noted we need to follow through on the Thonet proposal. John Ronafalvy/Fran Rapa motioned to approve the outline presented by Erv, and for members to email comments on the report to Erv by November 1. Motion passed.

Sustainable Jersey-the JEC suggests setting up a meeting of the Township Committee and Borough Council with a representative of Sustainable Jersey. Phyllis Sauler will ask Cheryl Reardon to invite a speaker. A Pilesgrove Planning Board member is also looking into Sustainable Jersey.

Smart Growth/Habitat Project-Fran Rapa reported on the status of the project. Blaine Rothausser has not been able to perform the survey he proposed because of funding.

Woodstown will approve the project and fund it at the next Council meeting.  
Woodstown and Pilesgrove must now determine the process for payment of the consultant.

South Jersey Land and Water Trust has begun its investigation and training for the project.

We will need to ask for an extension of the time for the project.

Woodstown will soon sign the contracts for the grant.

The JEC needs to recruit private landowners who will allow Blaine Rothauser to conduct surveys on their land.

JEC Professional Consultants-We discussed the need for the JEC to have access to professional consultants who would perform specific surveys when a development plan warrants the investigation. The consensus was that the JEC should give clear recommendations to the Planning Boards in specific situations, presenting concepts and supporting details. The consensus was that JEC should develop a memo to each Planning Board stating why outside professional consultants are needed, and develop a sample ordinance that can be used by the Planning Boards. Rob Waddington/Paul Langley motioned to have Fran Rapa develop a recommendation to each Planning Board, developing the need for professional consultants to provide support for the Environmental Impact Statement in unique situations. Motion passed.

### **New Business**

Stream Assessment Workshop-Erv Parker reported on the Stream Assessment workshop conducted by Michael Hogan through the South Jersey Land and Water Trust on Saturday, September 19 at Pilesgrove Township Municipal Building and Camp Crockett. Jean Jack reported on a follow-up assessment Michael Hogan did at Memorial Lake on Saturday, October 10. The assessment found significant problems due to the extensive damage done by the flock of Canada geese at the lake. Goose droppings are fouling the water. The geese are eating plants to the edge of the water, thus creating serious bank erosion. Steps should be taken to protect the lake from this damage. The local group Splash has plans for a dock and kayaking instructions, but the condition of the water creates a health problem.

Rain Garden Workshop-We discussed a possible workshop; no specific plans were made.

Open Space Funding-The Pilesgrove Township Committee and the Freeholder Board have voted in favor of the Open Space Funding November ballot question, and have passed resolutions in support.

Rob Waddington/Paul Langley motioned to adopt an Open Space Resolution and send copies to appropriate persons listed on the sample resolution.

Motion passed.

Richard Pfeffer stated he will put the resolution on the Borough Council agenda for their action.

### **Open Discussion/Announcements/Other**

John Ronafalvy inquired about expiring terms of some JEC members. Terms of Fran Rapa, Woodstown and John Ronafalvy, Pilesgrove, expire December 31, 2009. Both agreed to be reappointed. Both Alternates' terms expire on December 31 also. Bob Howell can be reappointed. A Woodstown Alternate should be named.

The Director of the Pinelands Institute will write a column on the Open Space Funding ballot question for distribution to newspapers.

Rick Pfeffer reported the Woodstown Planning Board approved plans for a funeral home on the corner of Broad and Elm Streets.

Rick Pfeffer also discussed the COAH housing being built with Pilesgrove near Hillcrest. The DEP declared Woodstown's land as wetlands, but the Borough may be able to get a waiver to use most of the buffer for construction.

Woodstown would like to have the Musumeci property in conservation, and wants to help Pilesgrove proceed with a conservation plan.

At Lincoln Mill Estates, the developers applied for an LOI for the south side, but not the north side, where there is a bog turtle habitat. The developer will now request a Presence or Absence letter for the north side.

The Industrial Complex on Route 40 (Delaware Memorial Industrial Park) also has bog turtle habitat.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

The next meeting will be at 7:00pm on Thursday, November 12 at Pilesgrove Township Municipal Building.

Jean Jack, Secretary