

DENNIS TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes: December 16, 2015.

Meeting held at 5:30 p.m. at the municipal building.

Chairman Bob Penrose led the flag salute to open the meeting.

ROLL CALL: All commission members were present, except Mr. Castor.

The committee voted to approve the minutes of the November meeting and Mr. Rebmann will contact the webmaster to have those minutes posted to the township website for public consumption.

There were no guests scheduled to speak at the meeting. Mr. Rebmann noted that he'd had no success arranging for the county Health Department to perform noise readings along Routes 9 and 47 relating to complaints from about noise from rumble strips on those roads from several residents.

The county had replied that public roads, Mr. Rebmann said, are exempt from noise measurements according to law. He added that he had received no reply from DOT to his request for a representative of that agency to address the commission.

Mr. Rosenthal suggested contacting Senator Van Drew's office for assistance in arranging for an official to meet with the commission.

Ms. Salimbene updated the commission on the bike path. She distributed maps showing the route the path is likely to take from Woodbine down Ocean View Road, eventually connecting with Middle Township. At this time, Dennis Township presents a break in continuity of the path from the upper county to the southern tip.

Mr. Hoff asked about using higher ground for the path to avoid some more swampy sections near the proposed route.

Ms. Leatherwood indicated that township students hoped the path could pass near the school but Ms. Salimbene pointed out that the railroad is still considered active and the township would have to undertake a number of responsibilities to utilize that route, including fencing and drainage. This also includes the possibility of losing such access if the train actually did begin running.

Ms. George asked about using Open Space money from the county to pay for the project and was told that the township is pursuing that option, particularly since the bike path is something all county residents can utilize.

Next topic discussed was the memorial for the late Eileen Turner. Mr. Rebmann had submitted the request to Township Committee with the commission's proposal and site selection. The committee was agreeable and Mr. DiCicco suggested sending more details

including plans for a ceremony, signage, and native plants. Mr. Rebmann will make this communication after January. He will also communicate with the Turner family and the media.

Mr. Rosenthal provided maps of the township for members to examine to find alternate sites for the memorial (if desired).

The commission also scheduled a date (Saturday, January 16) to inspect dams in the township. This activity will include photographs of local dams/ponds. The participants include Mr. DiCicco, Mr. Rebmann, Mr. McManus., and Mr. Castor. Though he leaves office in January, Mr. DiCicco will still be involved with OEM and condition of local dams falls under that department. Ms. George will serve as an alternate on this subcommittee.

It being the last meeting of the year, Mr. Penrose advised that a chairman and vice-chairman would need to be appointed. Also, terms expire for three current members. Mr. Penrose expressed his hope that they are reappointed and that they continue to work with the commission. These are Ms Slotterback, Mr. Hoff, and Mr. Rosenthal. Reorganization meeting takes place January 20.

Mr. Penrose also publicly thanked Mr. DiCicco for all that he has done for the commission since it resumed business two years ago.

There being no other business, Mr. Penrose closed the meeting.