

**TOWNSHIP OF DENNIS**  
**Environmental Commission Meeting**  
**Wednesday January 25, 2017**

Call to order was made by the Municipal Clerk at approximately 5:30pm.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, the Clerk administered the oath of office to following:

Reappointment of Bob Penrose, also reappointed to Chair the Commission.

Reappointment of Chris Castor now as a voting member

Newly appointed, Scott Turner and Jim Herlihy

The newly sworn in members joined the sitting members.

Present:       Castor  
                  George  
                  Herlihy  
                  Hoff  
                  Penrose  
                  Rosenthal  
                  Slotterback  
                  Turner

After discussion, a motion was made by Alma George and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Herlihy to establish the meeting schedule for the year 2017 to be the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month, except for November and December which would be the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the month to accommodate the holidays. The meeting schedule will be posted on the website as well as published in the newspaper.

The vote was unanimously agreed to accept the motion, so moved.

Chairman Penrose took no time nominating Alma George to be Secretary. Brad Rosenthal swiftly made the motion to accept, Chris Castor did not hesitate to 2<sup>nd</sup>, all were in favor and before she knew it, it was so moved.

Chairman Penrose lead discussion regarding ANJEC, Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions and the benefits of membership including but certainly not limited to its resources of information, grant money available for open space stewardship, and abundant seminars on a variety of environmental topics. The next ANJEC event is on April 1<sup>st</sup> in Egg Harbor Township, "Fundamentals of Effective Environmental Commissions". Alma George made a motion and Jim Herlihy 2<sup>nd</sup> it, to continue not only our membership in ANJEC at \$360 per year but the New Jersey Shade Tree Federation for \$95 as well. The vote was unanimous, so moved.

Alma George reported that the NJ Shade Tree will be offering free trees this year in packs of 50 with a minimum order of 500. More details to follow.

Chairman Penrose asked Alma to provide the volunteer from for the members to keep track of all their hours spent with Environmental Commission activities. This report is needed for various reports like the annual report and the annual report for compliance with the NJ Shade Tree Act.

A report from the CFO Glenn Clarke regarding the budget from 2016 was reviewed. The Commission had a budget of \$1000, as set by the Mayor and Committee. The Commission spent a total of \$742.02 in 2016.

#### CONSOLIDATED LAND USE BOARD APPLICATIONS

3 separate applications were presented to the Consolidated Land Use Board copies of which were provided to the Commission for review:

Block 262 Lot 11.15 - Property on Clermont Drive – no comment

Block 98 lot 66 - Property on Sunny Lane – one comment that the septic can accommodate the additional bath.

PHILTRICH, LLC c/o Bluewater Welding and Fabrication– Block 64, Lot 30 – Located on Route 47 in Dennisville in a Village Commercial (VC) District. There were many concerns regarding the environmental impact in this area. Unfortunately, while tidal waters were roughly shown, the wetlands delineations, and subsequent buffers, were not depicted on the survey. Further information is required to render comment. Scott Turner will inquiry at the next Board meeting regarding if the wetlands have been delineated and if there is any or any plans for an Environmental Impact Statement considering its proximity to sensitive salt water wetlands.

Chris Castor asked the Commission members to think about what projects they would like to see the Commission accomplish this year. Near and dear to Chris is cleanup at Beaver Dam area. Discussion revolved around various sites around the Township that need help: Dennis Creek, Jakes Landing, etc. Keeping our Township clean for not only our families but for our yearly visitors as well is of utmost importance. Our Township has a lot to offer with regards to Eco Tourism. Committeeman Tozer suggested that more public access to water for activities such as kayaking is needed in the Township. Several sites were discussed. This will be an ongoing discussion this year.

Committeewoman Salimbene would like to see continued support from the Commission in the schools. She will keep us posted on upcoming opportunities such as the Health Fair.

Update on Ilene Turner’s memorial at the Municipal Native Habitat Garden. 2 members primarily involved with this task are no longer on the Commission. Frank Hoff and Bob Penrose will follow up to see where things stand. Scott Turner offered his Family’s services in helping to bring the memorial to fruition.

Discussion ensued regarding the municipal garden and the need for plant ID signs and Brochure Dispenser for information about the garden.

Brad Rosenthal made a motion to adjourn, Jim Herlihy 2<sup>nd</sup>, all were in favor, so moved somewhere around 7:00 pm.

*Respectfully submitted by Alma W. George*