

BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

October 16, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes

APPROVED:

The Bedminster Township Environmental Commission held their regular meeting on Wednesday, October 16, 2013 commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Township Municipal Building, Main Meeting Room, One Miller Lane, Bedminster, NJ. The following Commissioners were in attendance: Chairman George Rodelius, Vice-Chairwoman Theresa Petras, Commissioners Art Stappenbeck, Jeff Leonard, Jamie Sunyak, Robbie Lert, and Tom Elliott.

Commissioner Rene Mareski was excused.

Meeting was called to order at 7:04pm.

Recognition of a quorum was followed by a reading by Chairman George Rodelius of the Open Public meetings Act as required by law.

Adequate notice of this meeting of the Bedminster Township Environmental Commission was filed with the Township Clerk, mailed to the Bernardsville News, Bernardsville; and the Courier-News, Somerville; and to all subscribers; and was posted at the Township Municipal building, One Miller Lane, Bedminster, New Jersey, all on January 6, 2013.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

(a) Approval of Minutes: Minutes for August, 2013 were approved via motion made by Jeff Leonard and seconded by Robbie Lert.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

AGENDA ITEM:

New Commissioner Tom Elliott was welcomed. Tom introduced himself and told us a little about his background.

KDC Solar Project:

Now that the application has been filed we can look into it. George gave a brief overview of what has happened so far at the Land Use Board. Our job is to review the environmental impact of this project. We should try to attend the Land Use Board meetings to learn as much as possible about this project. There are two official objectors: Forbes and the Stop The Power Plant group. Both were resented by attorney's at the first meeting. Tom Lynch, a principle with KDC gave a long overview and then answered questions from both attorneys. The proposal is to put 48,000 solar panels on the property, that would be on top of 8 foot pilings.

Our part of this application will be to produce a report to the Land Use Board. We need to come up with a list of environmental concerns. We will need to review the Natural Resource Inventory to become familiar with the area of the proposed site. We will also reach out to Raritan Headwaters and ANJEC for their input and comment. George distributed copies of township engineer Paul Ferriero's letter to KDC. We need to look at the impact on wetlands, wildlife, ground water, soils, noise, etc.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Art Stappenbeck: Open Space and Farmland – will e sending a letter out to the homeowners who have already preserved their land and a second letter asking homeowners who have over 6 acres to consider preserving (only farmland assessed properties).

Meeting adjourned at 8:42pm. Motion made by Jeff Leonard and seconded by Rene Mareski.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Theresa M. Petras
Vice Chair, and Acting Commission Secretary*