



Township of Blairstown
Environmental Commission
106 Route 94
Blairstown, NJ 07825

Minutes: October 7, 2015

Open Meeting/Call to order at 19:32 p.m. by Vice-Chairman Tom Dust

This meeting has been advertised in a newspaper of general circulation as to the time and place in accordance with the "Open Public Meetings Act"

Roll Call - Beth Arena, Tom Dust, Barbara Green, Patricia Gunther, Paul Avery (Twp Committee Liaison)

Excused Absence: Carolyn Fenton

Approval of Minutes - Minutes from September 2, 2015 were approved.

Motion: Patricia Gunther

Second: Tom Dust

Continuing Business:

Jones Farm: The commission commented on the great job that was done by the farmer mowing down the fields. A question was raised by Barbara Green if the acreage in front of the Jone's house up to the highway will be mowed as well in the future.

Fall Roadside Clean-up: Confirmed Sunday, November 15, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. No rain date. Commission will meet in the parking lot of Walnut Valley Field to begin our clean-up. Tom Dust will contact Rob Merrifield/Blair students in asking for his help again this year. Paul Avery will advise the Blairstown Township Committee of our plans for this event. Harold Price will supply all necessary supplies for this project. Our goal is one pickup truck full of debris.

Website Update: Tom Dust's name will be listed on the website as BEC's Vice-Chairman. No term dates will be posted on the website.

Commission, once again, discussed several issues that we would like on the Blairstown Township website :

- 1) The point of terms posted on the website. This would serve as notice to citizens who would like to apply to become members of the commission when terms expire.
- 2) Commission requests that links be established on the site to the BEC commission page.
- 3) An invitation to contact the BEC through Township Clerk, Phyllis E. Pizzaia, RMC, concerning application forms for future BEC commission members. A PDF file was also suggested to be incorporated on the site for ease of downloading forms pertinent to the commission, i.e. application form and other important documents concerning the BEC commission.

Field trip in municipal building to view BEC Filing Cabinet: Commission members took a stroll into the municipal building and are now aware where the BEC filing cabinet is located.

New Business:

Commission members discussed future out reach to the citizens of Blairstown. The question was asked by Beth Arena, if we as a commission, have a responsibility in keeping our citizens informed of environmental issues concerning the township. Members discussed issues as education, township ordinances, monitoring situations and having our citizens be made aware of when warranted. Beth Arena offered the suggestion of the Blairstown Face book page. This source is an effective tool in informing and reaching out to Blairstown's citizens. In years past, newspaper articles were the means of communication for the BEC. Paul Avery suggested a Mission Statement of the BEC should be proposed and initiated. Commission members offered suggestions in getting our BEC name out there suggesting community involvement activities which would take a measured plan in promoting.

Correspondence:

Stewart Surveying & Engineering LLC Re: Treatment Works Approval Buck Hill Properties LLC
Block 2001 Lot 1.01, 45 Route 94, Blairstown Township, NJ

Kathleen Lynch Re: Freshwater Wetlands Application Checklist Property at: 55 Mt. Herman Road,
Blairstown, NJ Block 1701 Lot 5.02 Blairstown Twp; Warren County

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: Motion made by Barbara Green ; Seconded by Tom Dust at 20:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Patricia Gunther, Secretary, BEC

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 4, 2015