

**MINUTES  
EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP  
Environmental Commission Reorganization Meeting  
January 28, 2019  
7:30 P.M**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

**STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE:**

The January 28, 2019 Reorganization Meeting of the East Amwell Township Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:35 p.m. Secretary, G. Brewi announced that this reorganization meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. This is a Reorganization Meeting of the East Amwell Environmental Commission, as published in the Hunterdon County Democrat on December 20, 2018. A copy of tonight’s agenda was filed with the Township Clerk and the Township Committee, forwarded to the Hunterdon County Democrat, distributed to the various East Amwell Township Committees and Boards, and was posted on the Township Bulletin Board.

**ROLL CALL:**

**ATTENDANCE 2019:**

Environmental Commission Member	1/28/19	2/25/19	3/25/19	4/22/19	5/20/19	6/24/19	7/22/19	8/26/19	9/23/19	10/28/19	11/25/19	12/16/19
Joe Angelone	X											
James Edwards												
Frances Gavigan	X											
Tom Rue	X											
Patsy Wang-Iverson	X											
Lisa Davis	x											
Kevin Ostrander (alt. I)	X											

*Others present: Gail Brewi, Mara Tippet (Raritan Headwaters), Alison Castellano  
Township Committee Liaison: None Present*

**REORGANIZATION DISCUSSION:**

F. Gavigan raised concerns with holding the reorganizational meeting, conducting business, and making decisions based upon her interpretation of the requirements under the East Amwell Township Ordinance, Chapter 14, and the State Statute N.J.40:56A-1 regarding an Environmental Commission; appointment; term; and vacancies. Secretary, G. Brewi provided as correspondence, an e-mail response dated January 28<sup>th</sup> from Mayor R. Wolf addressing the questions raised by Member, F. Gavigan. Mayor Wolfe suggested, that it is up to the members of the environmental commission to determine whether to hold it’s meeting but, as pointed out by Member F. Gavigan, the statute states that “the Mayor of the municipality shall designate one member to serve as the chairperson and

**MINUTES**  
**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP**  
**Environmental Commission Reorganization Meeting**  
**January 28, 2019**  
**7:30 P.M**

presiding officer of the commission”. Once determination is made regarding the direction of the potential integration among township committees a determination of a chairperson(s) and membership can be made.

Member L. Davis commented that the Environmental Commission has been conducting business under the direction of a co-chair during her term in the absence of a chair and therefore, in the absence of a designated chair for reorganization the same designated co-chair member could run the reorganization meeting. Further discussion took place regarding the possible merging of township committees which would require an ordinance to repeal the adopted ordinance and a public hearing. Members agreed that the appropriate forum for discussion of potential committee merging would be at the next Township Committee meeting. Member F. Gavigan nor any other members objected, and the reorganization meeting proceeded.

Member P. Wang-Iverson asked T. Rue to re-join the Environmental Commission as a member for the reorganization meeting and until a successor is appointed per the Township Ordinance which states “the term of such membership shall be for three years and until appointment and qualifications of their successors”. Alternate No. 1, K. Ostrander and member of the Township Committee addressed T. Rue’s concerns by stating that the Township Committee appreciates the time and commitment from volunteers and that due to potential consolidation of committees there were no appointment made at this time. Membership would be addressed once the direction was decided regarding the township committees.

Co-Chair, L. Davis declined a nomination by T. Rue to be recommended as Environmental Commission Chair. Motion to recommend Member J. Angelone as Environmental Commission Chair to the Mayor was made by L. Davis and seconded by P. Wang-Iverson. There were none opposed. K. Ostrander and F. Gavigan abstained. Nomination of Member J. Angelone to be recommend to the Mayor as the Environmental Commission Chair was unanimously approved.

Member F. Gavigan raised a concern about the determination of meeting dates for 2019. It was suggested that meeting dates could be adjusted to be held prior to Planning Board Meeting to eliminate possible approvals without input. Member J. Angelone asked for further consideration prior to changing the monthly meeting dates and expressed a conflict on a meeting day other than Monday. Commission members agreed to hold the next meeting on February 25<sup>th</sup>. Member F. Gavigan will reach out to the Planning Board Chair and obtain input. Future meeting dates will be determined at the February meeting and will be noticed to the public.

**PRESENTATION OF MINUTES:** November 26, 2018 Business Meeting  
Minutes of November 26, 2019: Motion to approve the draft minutes was made by T. Rue and seconded by P. Wang-Iverson. There were none opposed. F, Gavigan and K. Ostrander abstained. Minutes were unanimously approved with minor edits from P. Wang-Iverson.

**MINUTES**  
**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP**  
**Environmental Commission Reorganization Meeting**  
**January 28, 2019**  
**7:30 P.M**

**BILLS OF THE EVENING**

Secretary G. Brewi asked for approval of payment for the 2019 ANJEC Dues and information from each member for the membership list. Membership needs to be handled soon as training begins in March. Motion to approve payment of \$350 for the 2019 ANJEC dues was made by J. Angelone and seconded by P. Wang-Iverson. There were none opposed. None abstained. Payment to ANJEC for 2019 membership fees was unanimously approved.

**LAST MINUTE ADDITIONS**

Secretary G. Brewi noted that the additions; Environmental Commission Township Ordinance and consideration of combining Environmental, Recycling, and/or the Green Team committees were previously discussed at the beginning of the meeting as reorganization discussions.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Co-Chair, L. Davis asked for a motion to open to the public. Motion was made by T. Rue and seconded by P. Wang-Iverson.

Alison Castellano informed commission that Rosemary Georgett is the Township Clean Communities Person and has received her certification.

Motion to close to the public was made by J. Angelone and seconded by L. Davis.

**REPORTS:**

Financial Report

Secretary G. Brewi provided update. The Environmental Commission was provided an approved operating budget of \$4,050 for 2019. The budget was approved as requested except for funding allocated for ERI.

**Committee Liaison Reports:** Members reviewed liaisons and updated as follows. Will address possible liaison for Board of Health at the next meeting.

AG Advisory - (F. Gavigan) No Report Provided.

If any member is interested in taking over, it would be welcomed as F. Gavigan has had difficulty getting to the meetings.

**MINUTES**  
**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP**  
**Environmental Commission Reorganization Meeting**  
**January 28, 2019**  
**7:30 P.M**

Planning Board (F. Gavigan)

Liaison F. Gavigan updated. Planning Board has a new Chair, Gail Glashoff. She has 30 years of experience in the industry and is the new Statewide President of Professionals. She will bring experience, defined procedures and processes to make it easier for internal staff and residents in the township.

Member P. Wang-Iverson asked about the Planning Board Master Plan and the updates provided. F. Gavigan only recalls a plan for an overlay of the Affordable Housing element and will inquire. Liaison F. Gavigan to follow up as the commission believes that State Law requires Master Plan updates every five years.

Township Committee (R. Wolf)

Township Committee Member K. Ostrander had nothing additional to report as ERI was previously discussed.

Recycling Committee (T. Rue)

No report provided.

Recreation Committee (TBD – J. Edwards to advise availability)

No report as there is currently no liaison.

Farmland/Open Space Preservation Committee (T. Rue)

No report provided.

**Sub-Committee Reports:** Members for sub committees reviewed and reflected as follows:

Public Outreach Committee (L. Davis, P. Wang-Iverson, J. Edwards)

Co-Chair L. Davis updated that the subcommittee met in December and created a road map for implementation onto the new web site. Clarification was sought for protocol moving forward to implement changes. Member P. Wang-Iverson asked about posting updates for viewing and review by members prior to going live on the Township web site.

Alison Castellano updated that (1) person should have publishing rights. Other commission members could have viewable rights with their own username and password. Member L. Davis as member of public outreach will train with A. Castellano to put new content on the web site for viewing by commission members. A. Castellano will provide members with individual usernames and passwords to view proposed content.

**MINUTES**  
**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP**  
**Environmental Commission Reorganization Meeting**  
**January 28, 2019**  
**7:30 P.M**

Secretary, G. Brewi inquired about Environmental members access to Notify Me on the Township web site. Environmental Commission members would like to continue receiving agendas and minutes via e-mail from secretary. Once learning curve has been worked through new process may be established.

Site Review Committee (J. Angelone, T. Rue & F. Gavigan)

Member J. Angelone updated re: application for 23 Mountain Road, B 40.02 L 17 and B 40.03 L 3 for a variance for a side yard setback. Property is a grandfathered lot with constraints. The environmental concerns relate to water run off with the amount of water already on the property. F. Gavigan to conduct site visit and provide feedback to J. Angelone to draft Environmental Commission recommendation.

Easements Committee (J. Angelone, T. Rue & P. Wang-Iverson)

No report provided.

NRI/ERI (L. Davis, F. Gavigan)

Co-Chair L. Davis updated the group that she has requested to be on the Township Agenda to discuss at the next meeting. Any members with input please forward to L. Davis. Update and outcome of initiative to be provided to the commission at the February meeting. No update to report on the pilot program eligibility currently.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

TREX Program: Kirkpatrick Memorial Presbyterian Church is very close to reaching the second 500 lb. goal. DPW will take the lead for the third 500 pounds and Living Waters Church the fourth 500 pounds. Stop and Shop is on board again as a TREX partner for collection of the plastic bags.

Member of the public, A. Castellano suggested that the individual groups earning the bench execute and provide manpower necessary to collect the 500 lbs. The Grange is also interested in working toward a bench and the Township Recycling Committee in the future. Suggestion was also made that the DPW can empty collection bins when they are overflowing at the municipal building.

Green Team Committee: K. Ostrander updated that there have been (2) application received to date. Follow up will be made at next Township Committee meeting.

VIP Articles: Member P. Wang-Iverson updated future articles will be written as follows: February - Delaware Township winning school essay, March - well water testing, and May - free tree seedlings (a total of 800 seedlings) for residents.

**MINUTES**  
**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP**  
**Environmental Commission Reorganization Meeting**  
**January 28, 2019**  
**7:30 P.M**

Color Run: will be held May 4<sup>th</sup>. Suggestion was made to give-away tree seedlings at this event. Member P. Wang-Iverson suggested allocating 600 seedlings for give-away at the event. Each resident can have up to five.

Hunterdon County Community Day: No date provided yet.

Plant Swap: Expected to be held on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Member P. Wang-Iverson recommended an allocation of the remaining 200 free tree seedlings being provided for the event.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Residential Well Testing Program: Co-Chair L. Davis introduced Maria Tippett, Well Testing Program Manager from Raritan Headwaters. The residential well testing program will be offered April 1<sup>st</sup> through April 12<sup>th</sup> for East Amwell residents. Kits will be available at the municipal office from 7:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. for a nominal fee with no increase from last year. The return date for kits will be Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>. East Amwell has 1,774 households with wells and less than 12 homes (at the border of Raritan Township) with certified public water. Community participation is usually 2% to 5% with East Amwell having approximately 50 participants annually. Member P. Wang-Iverson asked how the commission could increase participation and increase awareness. Use of the Township website, flyers, local school PTO and a VIP article were suggested as ways to increase awareness.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

There was no need to re-open to the public.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- E-mail Communication dated 1/2/19, Krista Parsons re: Planning Board Application Deemed Incomplete for 23 Mountain Road B/40.02 L/17 and B/40.03 L/3
- E-Mail Communication dated 1/7/19, State of NJ DEP re: General Permit Withdrawal B/41 L/8
- E-Mail Communication dated 1/10/19, Watershed Institute re: Owls, Hikes & other Winter Adventure
- E-Mail Communication dated 1/10/19, Alison Castellano re: Township Website Notifications, Posting & Member Updates
- Environmental Training, Winter 2019 – Rutgers
- E-Mail Communication dated 1/16/19, Krista Parsons re: Planning Board, Revised Variance Application for 23 Mountain Road, B/40.02 L/17 and B/40.03 L/3

**MINUTES**  
**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP**  
**Environmental Commission Reorganization Meeting**  
**January 28, 2019**  
**7:30 P.M**

- E-Mail Communication dated 11-7-18, The Watershed Institute re: Green Infrastructure Certification.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Co-Chair L. Davis asked for a motion to close the meeting. Motion was made by J. Angelone and seconded by P. Wang-Iverson and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:52 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gail Brewi  
Environmental Commission Secretary

DRAFT