

CHATHAM BOROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
January 8, 2014

8 p.m.

Chairman John Tancredi called this meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. in Room 212, middle level, Chatham Municipal Building. Mr. Tancredi announced that all legal notices have been posted for this meeting.

Name	Present	Absent
John Tancredi	X	
John Bitar	X	
Cynthia Steffens	X	
Dick Plambeck	X	
Ruth Dekker		X
Ed DiFiglia		X
Carl Cappabianca		X
Kate Murphy	X	
Len Resto	X	
Council Member Alida Kass		X
Liz Holler, Rec. Sec.	X	

Community Gardens

Mr. Plambeck reported that all applications from both Borough and Township residents have been accepted by the Community Gardens Committee. Everyone has been accommodated. There is no wait list at this point in time. No lottery will be needed for garden plots. Individuals need to grade their own plots, or raise beds.

Open Space and Historic Preservation Trust Advisory Committee

There is a consultant in place on the Committee to report on open spaces in Morris County. An inventory on open spaces will be done. Maps will be done for the properties.

Correspondence/Articles

Mr. Tancredi distributed the following mail:

1. A resolution from the Borough Council, naming the Daily Record as the official newspaper for meeting notices
2. A resolution from the Borough Clerk establishing the Commission's meeting dates for the year 2014

Mr. Tancredi signed the second resolution as Chairman of the Commission. Ms. Holler will turn this document in to the Borough Clerk.

Review/Approval of Minutes

The meeting minutes of December 11, 2013 were approved as amended.

Liaison Reports
Planning Board

Mr. Bitar reported that the Board held its Re-Organization meeting tonight. The resolution memorializing the Board's approval of Clean Land, LLC, to operate at 231 Main Street was voted on and approved tonight.

Borough Council

Council Member Kass was not present to give this report.

Pending Business

Mr. Tancredi reported that Griffin Kenny, the scout who had met with the Commission last month, has talked with representatives at the Madison-Chatham Water Treatment Plant. It's not clear at this point whether he will construct his bat houses at the Treatment Plant rather than in the Milton Ave. woods.

GIC

Mrs. Steffens reported that due to the recent bad weather, the film "PlanEAT" has been re-scheduled to the night of February 6th. Commissioners offered to distribute the mini-posters for this film. A volunteer list was passed around for Commissioners interested in helping out with this event.

Sustainable Jersey Certification

Mrs. Steffens distributed and explained the "2015 SJ Recertification Summary of Actions". Chatham Borough will try for 350 points. Obtaining the Bronze level should not be a problem.

Mrs. Steffens passed around "Jobs for Sustainable Jersey Silver Recertification – Sign-up Sheet". She pointed out that there are still openings on the list for volunteers.

Mrs. Steffens discussed the "Action by Action" to-do list, month by month. Chatham Borough is now within "the shelf life" of Green Challenges. Community Gardens still has to have a checklist filled out. Mr. Plambeck will work on this.

Mrs. Steffens and Commissioners discussed the Anti-Idling project. Funding is available from Sustainable Jersey. Also, grant money was given by the Jaycees. Hopefully some private businesses in town will put up anti-idling signs. The cost of bumper-stickers promoting anti-idling still has to be researched.

The Direct-Install Outreach to Local Businesses was reviewed by Mrs. Steffens and the Commission. Direct Install is willing to provide free energy audits to local business. How to publicize this program was discussed by the Commissioners. A mailing list of local businesses and landlords could be obtained from the Municipal offices. Perhaps a breakfast could be held to give local business info on these free audits.

On other matters, hopefully the Tree Canopy goal will be reached. The Water Conservation event still needs a volunteer coordinator. Commissioners also discussed an event for providing info on a clean energy program. Mr. Bitar will work on finding a contact/speaker for this event.

Regarding the Mayor's Wellness Campaign, Mrs. Steffens noted that Mrs. Murphy was going to document the seniors. Mrs. Dekker will be documenting the kids. Mrs. Murphy suggested Borough employees will be e-mailed charts for them to pledge how many hours of exercise they will do a week. Mrs. Steffens will contact Janice Piccolo about the possibility of this undertaking.

New Business/Discussion

Sub Committees and Responsibilities

Mr. Tancredi suggested that subcommittees be redefined. In the future, specific decisions should be made of who is going to spear-head what project. He also suggested the general responsibilities list be organized.

Mr. Tancredi noted that John Bitar will no longer be chairing the Green Fair.

Mr. Tancredi said if someone volunteered to be Commission Chair this year, he will head up the Green Fair for 2014. He can't do both. He informed Commissioners that at next month's meeting, they will firm up the Commission's officers and subcommittees. Other people need to take responsibility for these subcommittees.

The next Environmental Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 12, 2014, 8 p.m., Room 212, Chatham Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted:

Elizabeth Holler

Elizabeth Holler
Recording Secretary

cc: Mayor Bruce Harris