CHATHAM BOROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
October 9, 2013 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.

Names	Present	Absent
John Tancredi	X	
John Bitar		X
Cindy Steffens	X	
Dick Plambeck	X	
Ruth Dekker		X
Joan Thuebel		X
Ed DiFiglia	x	
Carl Cappabianca		
Kate Murphy	X	
Liz Holler, Rec. Secretary	X	

Review/Approval of Minutes
The meeting minutes of September 11, 2013 were approved as amended.

Correspondence/Articles
Mr. Tancredi distributed the following pieces of correspondence:

- Information on an ANJEC workshop on planning to be held Oct. 19th
- ANJEC's Autumn report
- Two purchase orders, department copies, for activities at the Green Fair
- Twenty copies of flyers announcing the Eco film: "Forks over Knives" to be posted around town

Liaison Reports
Planning Board
Ms. Holler reported on the Anastasio application, 338 Main St., which is before the Board seeking a Waiver of Site Plan.

Borough Council
Mr. Plambeck noted that the Mayor and Council are in the process of auctioning off Borough property at 83 Chatham Street with the proviso that the parcel cannot be developed, but it can be used for calculating lot, coverage, building coverage, FAR, for adjoining lots.

Open Space and Historic Preservation Trust Advisory Committee
Mr. DiFiglia stated that the Committee will be meeting tomorrow night. He will have a report for the next Commission meeting.

Community Garden

Mr. Plambeck reported that the Garden is now in place at Woodland Park. The trimming and removing of trees have been done. Fill has been put down to level the site. Fencing will be installed. A new Community Garden Committee has been named.

Pending Business

Brian Goldstein – Deer Exclosures in Milton Ave. Woods

Mr. Tancredi reported that Brian's deer exclosures are 100% complete. Brian has distributed keys to the exclosures to different groups in the Borough. Mr. Tancredi suggested that the Commission's key be put on a wooden bar for easy reach.

Green Fair

Mr. Tancredi reported that the Fair was a great success. A big thank you to all who participated.

Green Initiatives

Eco Film Series

Mrs. Steffens noted that she has sent around a schedule of the Eco films to be shown in Chatham up until February 2014. The Chatham Library is okay with all the film dates. Mrs. Murphy offered to help Mrs. Steffens with the Eco film series. She offered to preview the film coming up "Forks over Knives". She will also bring refreshments to the film gathering. Mrs. Steffens asked Commissioners whether or not to put a disclaimer on any future flyers for Eco films.

Sustainable Jersey – Silver Certification

Mrs. Steffens distributed information on a Rain Barrel/Composter Prepaid Sale held later this month at the Borough Hall of Madison. She brought up the possibility of the Chatham Environmental Commission selling some of these barrels and composters this October 25th and at the next Green Fair. A vendor will come and give a presentation on how to use these items. If the Borough participates in this Sale, 5 points could be earned towards water conservation.

After further discussion, Mr. Tancredi said he felt it would be okay for Mrs. Steffens, on behalf of the Commission, totake part in this Sale at the Madison Hartley-Dodge Building on October 25th. He questioned how Chatham would collect the checks for these barrels and composters. Mr. DiFiglia pointed out that all checks will be made out to Rainbow Environmental. Mrs. Steffens suggested Chatham Borough be written in the memo section of checks written by Borough residents. Betsy in Madison will be looking out for the checks submitted by Chatham Borough residents.

On other matters, Mrs. Steffens distributed a summary entitled "Jobs for Sustainable Jersey Silver Recertification – Sign up Sheet". Commissioners discussed which jobs they would be interested in taking on. Mrs. Murphy offered to do "Green Challenges" and "Eco Films". Mr. Plambeck volunteered to do Community Gardens. Mrs. Steffens said Mrs. Dekker has offered to handle the Kids section under the Mayors' Wellness Campaign and Safe Routes to School. Mr. DiFiglia suggested resident Tony Britt for #6: "Direct Install Outreach to Local Businesses". Mr. DiFiglia was interested in taking on #18: "Community Forestry Plan & Tree Canopy Goal".

Commissioners discussed updating the assignment of maintaining the CBEC website, #8 on the list.

Mr. Tancredi volunteered for #11: "Grass Cut It and Leave It!".

Mrs. Murphy and Mr. Tancredi pointed out that not all Commissioners were present tonight. The absent ones may be interested in some of the assignments still remaining.

Commissioners discussed #16: "Bulky Rigid Plastics Recycling", which would give 10 points. Mr. Tancredi noted that it's ultimately up to the Borough whether these 10 points can be obtained.

Commissioners reviewed #17: "Purchase Alternate Fuel Vehicle". They noted that money needs to be in the Borough budget for this particular undertaking. Mrs. Steffens explained what information she needed for her Borough fleet inventory. Mr. Tancredi and Mr. DiFiglia recommended that a letter be sent to the Mayor and Council stating the Commission's position on alternate fuel vehicles and encourage them to purchase a hybrid in the future for municipal use.

Fall Clean-up
Commissioners decided on Saturday, November 16th for Fall Clean-up Day. Mr. DiFiglia reported that the many of the Borough trails and sidewalks have been over-run by poison ivy.

New Business/Discussion
Response to criticism from Borough resident
Commissioners discussed the different responses that have been made to this resident's criticisms. Mr. Tancredi felt that Mayor Harris gave an adequate response to this resident's claims.

Miscellaneous
Mr. Plambeck reported that there is a new Boy Scout badge on Sustainability. He believed that Mrs. Steffens would be an excellent counselor for this badge.

Mr. Plambeck reminded Commissioners of the Spring Clean-up Day scheduled for May 3, 2014. Also the White Lites Program has come alive again. Donations are being sought.

At 10:00 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

The next Environmental Commission meeting will be held Wednesday, November 13, 2013, 8 p.m., Room 212, Chatham Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted:

Elizabeth Holler

Elizabeth Holler
Recording Secretary

cc: Mayor Bruce Harris