



**COLTS NECK
ENVIRONMENTAL
COMMISSION**

124 Cedar Drive
Colts Neck, NJ 07722

Meeting Minutes January 7, 2008

Members

Present –David Kostka, Vincent Domidion, Liaison Thomas Hennessey, Mary Massey

Absent –Sashe Annete, David Paddock, John Vig

Associates

Present - Pat Anderson

Absent – Gisela Anderl

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Mr. Kostka who read the following statement. “In accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Act. P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, public notice of this meeting has been provided by publication of an annual notice in the Asbury Park Press and posting of this notice on the bulletin board at Town Hall.”

The December 3, 2007 minutes were distributed for review. There being no corrections made the minutes were approved as submitted.

LIAISON REPORT

Mr. Hennessy had no report.

PLANNING BOARD

Block 51, Lot 2.30, Ignazie Giuffre, Squan Song Lane off Hockhockson was again addressed. Applicant had previously been advised by the Planning Board to reduce the percentage of lot coverage. Applicant returned to the Planning Board with some adjustments. However, the lot coverage has not been reduced to within the permitted percentage. Although there has been some reduction, the position of the Environmental Commission remains the same. The Environmental Commission opposes the granting of a variance for lot coverage.

Block 46, Lot 11, DeFalco (the former Honey Shop). Applicant is a realty company seeking a variance for number of parking spaces required. Property currently has 7 spaces. Requirement is 10 spaces. Applicant is considering adding another parking spot. While many of the issues raised by this application are not strictly environmental and thus the Environmental Commission takes no position, the Environmental Commission opposes any increase in lot coverage which is currently is in excess of 40%

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS/ CORRESPONDENCE

Meeting with JCP&L

On January 4, Tim Anfuso, Mr. Kostka and Mr. Domision of the Environmental Commission, and Ines Grimm from Freehold Soil Conservation Service met with representatives of JCP&L, including Gerald Ricciardi, Area Manager, Community and Customer Relations.

After inspecting some property, Vince Domidion had noted the result of JCP&L's tree cutting program was extensive soil erosion. In addition, large limbs and portions of trees remain on the grounds. Thus, without extensive remediation, the grounds can not be planted with grass. The homeowners have been deprived of their beneficial use of their property upon which JCP&L has an easement. Freehold Soil was advised of the conditions. JCP&L was contacted and the meeting resulted.

JCP&L stated it had not considered the soil erosion issue. JCP&L advised it is required by federal regulations to remove foliage from around its wires, However it had met with Township representatives prior to cutting. It had proposed herbicides as an alternative to clear cutting, and discussed this with both Township officials and homeowners, but this proposal was rejected by the Township representatives with whom JCP&L met.

The Environmental Commission was not invited to attend the meeting with JCP&L prior to the cutting and thus while damage to foliage was considered, there was no consideration of other environmental issues such soil erosion. At the meeting in December, JCP&L representatives stated that had the issue been raised prior to cutting, precautions could have been taken to avoid the soil erosion.

At the meeting in December, Ms. Grimm from Freehold Soil Conservation Service inspected the area and advised a letter would be sent to JCP&L outlining the process to mitigate the damage to soil and also the methods to avoid soil erosion in the future.

Management of Greenways

The Commission was advised that at the meeting with JCP&L, Ines Grimm of Freehold Soil Conservation Service raised the issue of Colts Neck's management of its Greenways. The Environmental Commission discussed methods and decided to investigate the possibility of obtaining grants for Greenway management.

Aggregated Soil Map

Vince Domidion presented a finished copy of the Aggregated Soil Map for the Swimming River Watershed that he has been preparing. The map is an efficient planning tool for development because, based upon the soils, decisions can be made as to which lands are better for housing/agricultural/commercial use.

Thomas Hennessy moved to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Mary Massey. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Next Meeting 7:30 pm – Monday, February 4, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Massey, Member

