



**COLTS NECK
ENVIRONMENTAL
COMMISSION**

124 Cedar Drive
Colts Neck, NJ 07722

Meeting Minutes October 1, 2007

Members

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

Absent –David Paddock, Sashe Annete, 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 August 27, 2007 minutes were held for the next meeting.

LIAISON REPORT

Mr. Hennessey reported that the Township Committee has passed three environmental resolutions. One, “green” cleaning was adopted as the standard for Township Hall maintenance. Two, Township grounds were declared “pesticide free,” so pesticides will no longer be used on Township property. Three, Township vehicles are required to be “idle free.” It takes more fuel to idle longer than 10 seconds than to restart a vehicle. Mr. Domidion suggested that the schools have the largest buildings and should consider installation of solar panels. Mr. Kostka would like the Axelrods to meet with the Commission and describe the measures they have taken to make their home as environmentally progressive as possible. He suggested inviting Tony Senk of the Colts Neck Journal to the meeting, as well as initiating a monthly environmental column, with information about cleaning products, pesticides, water use, lighting, idling of vehicles, and environmental consciousness for homeowners.

PLANNING BOARD

Gerhard, Block 51, Lot 2.21, had previously applied for approval for a tennis court. It has returned with request for a variance from requirement for a fence of between 10 and 15 feet, as owner wants an 8 foot fence. No reason is seen to grant this variance, but the application would cause no adverse environmental impact.

Willowbrook Farms, Block 9, Lot 2.01, needs two variances to build an indoor riding arena and garage. Maximum allowable impervious coverage is 10%. Applicant is currently at 10.1% and desires approval for 15.22%. Side lot setback requirement is 100 feet. The applicant is currently at 98 feet, and asking approval for 50 feet. Mr. Domidion stated that the soils at the back of the lot are wet. The members decided that the increase in impervious coverage would

be excessive and impact negatively on recharge of stormwater.

Andreas Galleros, Block 16, Lot 12/36, Heritage Lane near Heyers Mill Road. The applicant requests approval for a 2-lot subdivision of parcel with deficient frontages. This is a planning issue with no adverse environmental impacts.

Ignazie Giuffre, Block 51, Lot 2.30, 17 Squan Song Lane, has applied for permission to install a pond. However, it appears that the pond is actually a fountain, and as such should probably be reviewed by the Zoning Board of Adjustment rather than the Planning Board. The plans show an enormous circular driveway. Impervious coverage is already at 20%. The members opposed the plan due to the large amount of impervious coverage.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Domidion reported that Monmouth County is doing a non-regulatory grant project entitled "Agri-Environmental Assessment of Equine Pasture & Trails in the Colts Neck Watershed." A copy of this will be distributed to all members. He also provided statistics on the economic impact of the equine industry, also to be distributed. He offered a fact sheet from Rutgers about rain gardens, which can be used as a stormwater management tool.

NEW BUSINESS/ CORRESPONDENCE

The Monmouth Conservation Foundation sent a request for a Township resolution in favor of the Green Acres, Farmland, Blue Acres, and Historic Preservation Bond Act of 2007. This will be forwarded to the Township Committee.

Invitation was received from Monmouth County Environmental Council for a meeting at Brookdale Community College on October 16 regarding "Planning for Climate Change." Mr. Domidion will attend.

A brochure entitled "Concrete Water Solutions" was received.

Charles Tappen of 73 Heulitt Road, applied for wetlands designation and general permit for tree cutting. Reconstruction of a single family residence is proposed. Existing residence is on top of fill in wetlands. New residence would expand existing pavement.

Mrs. Massey motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm. Mrs. Anderson seconded the motion, which unanimously passed.

Next Meeting 7:30 pm – Monday, November 5, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Terry, Secretary

