

**MINUTES
HOPE TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
March 18, 2014**

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mike Taylor

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT:

The secretary read the "Open Public Meetings Act"
Under the provisions of the "Open Public Meetings Act", adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by publishing notice in the "Star Gazette" and by posting notices in the Hope Post Office and on the Township Bulletin Board all on February 14, 2014.

Present at this meeting were: Chairman, Mike Taylor, Vice Chair, Monica Sobon and members: Ellen Benoit, Cathie LaBar, and Chris Rusin. Absent were members: Chris Beatty, Nancy Chambellan, John Lucas, Betsy Peterson and Jennifer Wallace.

MINUTES The minutes of the meeting of February 18, 2014 have been distributed to the Commission and Team members prior to this meeting. Sobon and Rusin noted a typographical error in the minutes. In the fifth paragraph, the word "was" should be removed so that the sentence reads: "... this group applied last year and was not successful getting the grant ..." A motion was made by Rusin, seconded by Sobon to approve the minutes as amended. By voice vote, all were in favor with Taylor abstaining.

OLD BUSINESS GRANTS: Benoit noted that we would be applying for the ANJEC Open Space Pathway Grant for the path at Swayze Mill Park again and asked Rusin if we needed a letter of support from the Municipal Officials. Benoit noted that she would be happy to look over the narrative that was used for the last grant application – she would just review it and change the dates and any other pertinent information.

RECYCLING: The secretary reported that the baseball and softball coaches have met and we were not notified of the meeting until the day before and that notification came after the secretary had already left Hope for the day. A brief discussion was held regarding how to get the people on the sports fields on board with recycling.

NEW BUSINESS Rusin commented that at a recent Chamber of Commerce talk on Tourism she met Phyllis Oppenheimer, head of tourism. Oppenheimer was thrilled with the Farm Brochure and later emailed to Rusin money that might be available if the Green Team wanted to expand on that project.

APRIL 12 – GO GREEN FAIR: A lengthy discussion was held regarding the April 12th "Go Green Fair". Starting off the discussion was the location of the fair. The secretary reported that she was JUST informed that there WILL be an e-waste collection and that would be set up in the parking lot of the municipal building. She added that it would have to be a modified e-waste collection – there will be no collection of CRT TV's and monitors or items containing Freon.

There was some concern that there might not be enough participation to warrant the entire Community Center. The suggestion was made that since the E-waste and Shredding would be taking place here at the Municipal Building, maybe the entire Green Fair could take place here as well. People might be drawn here by the E-waste and Shredding and if we, perhaps offered coffee – people might stay, come inside and look to see what was there.

It was noted that many groups / organizations were contacted but only a few have committed to participate. It was decided that the deadline for definite participants was set for March 26th. This way we know what we'll have coming and how much space, tables etc... that we'll need.

The projects that we definitely have at this point

- *Sustainable Jersey – sign & poster
- *Soil Conservation
- *School programs – bike parts / wetlands
- *E-waste
- *Document Shredding
- *French Fry Car
- *Soil Conservation display
- *Jim Glorio
- *Invasive Plant Species
- *Clean Communities

Many other suggestions were made and discussed but not put on the list as they were not definite yet.

The suggestion of meeting on Monday, March 24th at 10:00am was made. Monica offered to email everyone about that meeting.

It was suggested that we make copious notes so that when we begin to plan for next year's green fair, we can redo those things which worked well, not use those things that didn't work well and make note of suggestions for things that we thought would be a good idea but ran out of time to get together.

CORRESPONDENCE A letter of resignation was received from Chris Beatty. The commission asked the secretary to send her a letter of appreciation for her time.

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business before the Commission, a motion was made by LaBar, seconded by Sobon to adjourn the meeting. By voice vote, all were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

Linda Gabel

secretary