

Chatham Township Environmental Commission  
58 Meyersville Rd, Chatham, NJ 07928, 973-635-4600  
Minutes of the Tuesday, October 4, 2016

The meeting of the Chatham Township Environmental Commission convened at 7:28 pm on Tuesday, October 4, 2016, at the Township Municipal Building. In attendance were CTEC members, Steve Carroll, Marilyn Murray, Dot Stillinger and Karen Swartz. Absent: Frank Esposito, Peter Gallagher, Maureen Kelly Matt Palmer and Don Trivisano.

Also attending the meeting was township resident Cara Feeser and Watershed Ambassador Alexandra Cavagrotti.

Due to lack of quorum, no formal action was taken at this meeting.

**CTEC'S PURPOSE:** To undertake projects and make recommendations concerning the protection or use of natural resources, including water resources and air quality, located within or directly affecting Chatham Township.

The Chatham Township Environmental Commission's goal is to provide a responsible environmental viewpoint to Township committees and boards and to undertake projects with a strong educational component in order to inform officials and residents about constructive actions that can be taken to preserve the environment.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT --** The meeting schedule for 2016 and January 2017 is posted on the main bulletin board at the Township municipal building and on the Chatham Township website at [www.chathamtownship.org](http://www.chathamtownship.org). The public is cordially invited to attend all meetings including the Land Use Subcommittee, join the discussions and participate in projects.

**APPROVED DATES FOR CTEC AND GREEN TEAM MEETINGS IN 2016 AND JANUARY 2017**

Every first or second Tuesday February through December 2016 and the second Tuesday in January 2017.

Dates are: February 2, March 1, April 5, May 3, June 14, July NO MEETING, August 2, September 13, October 4, November 1, December 6 in 2016 and January 10 in 2017.

Due to lack of quorum, the Green Team and CTEC meeting minutes of September 13, 2016, were deferred to November 1, 2016 meeting for voting.

**GREEN TEAM MEETING (7:25-7:50)**

Sustainable Jersey certification renewal date is June 2018. If CTEC is interested in renewal of certification, planning for action points needs to begin. Many points carry over. 150 points - Bronze, 350 – Silver. Steve will compile a list of attainable actions to divide between members. Alexandra Cavagrotti, Watershed Ambassador, is interested in helping with action certification.

S. Carroll, Green Team Chair and CTEC Vice Chair.

**REVIEW RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR HIGHLANDS PRESERVATION**

Although most of Chatham Township's drinking water comes from the Passaic River, in times of drought water from the Highlands is pumped into our system. It is in the interest of Chatham Township to have clean drinking water from the Highlands available when needed.

At this time, due to members expressing concerns over property rights, density and other concerns, Dot will arrange to have a speaker come to meeting to address questions.

## GREEN VILLAGE POND CONSERVATION AREA

- Volunteers continue to work on trail improvement and cleanup of dump. Projects are available for Scouts and other service groups. The goal is to extend the trail for a mixed habitat nature walk, with possible marked features, from Green Village Road to Shunpike via the former Kirby tract. Considering looking into a removable bridge, due to wetlands; permits maybe needed.

## APPLICATION/ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT REVIEW

- Hatch Mott MacDonald, June 14, 2016, application to NJDEP for Wetlands General Permit No. 17 for placement of a 6' wide paved asphalt pathway along Woodland Road extending from the existing pathway to Treadwell Avenue. This path would extend access from Giralda Park to Treadwell Ave. and has been under discussion since the beginning of the Giralda project. CTEC reviewed, NO COMMENT NEEDED. CLOSED.
- Block 48.02, Lot 2, 36 Glenmere Drive, August 23, 2016, application to the NJDEP for general permit for site grading activities.
- ARKAD Group and PK Environmental, Block 48.14, Lot 113.12, 6 Jay Rd., August 22, 2016, application to the NJDEP for LOI and Flood Hazard Area General Permit #6. The FHA GP#6 is requested for authorization of a regulated residential activity that is not located within a fluvial flood hazard area, but it situated within a previously disturbed 300-foot Riparian Zone from an off-site Category One (C1) designated watercourse, which is a tributary of the Black Brook.
- E2 Project Management LLC for Verizon Wireless, Block 48.14, Lot 110, Southern Boulevard (PSE&G right-of-way), July 22, 2016, application to NJDEP for Wetlands General Permit No. 2, Transition Area Waiver Re-development Plan, FHA Applicability Determination, for a proposed wireless communication facility to be located within a previously-disturbed wetland transition area.
- Transco, existing natural gas pipeline facilities along its entire pipeline system, August 5, 2016, application to NJDEP for renewal of Transco's existing Statewide Maintenance Permit including a Wetlands GP#1 and FHA permit. The application refers to Chatham Tet In, Mainline Caldwell "B" loop, Mainline Caldwell "D" loop and Mainline Caldwell "D" loop CS505 LNCHR 1 in Chatham Township. There are gas lines in Chatham Township in the PSE&G right-of-way and also near the post office trending north into Loantaka Park and trending south parallel to Southern Blvd in the Great Swamp. Disturbances in gas pipeline ROWS have been observed to be serious. CTEC comment may be desirable.
- CALENDAR BOA 16-144-50 (April 1, 2016) MADS & SARI JEPSEN, 446 GREEN VILLAGE ROAD, BLOCK: 144 LOT 50. Application to Board of Adjustment. Reconstruct dwelling using the existing foundation; will comply with 35 foot height limitation but variances needed for proposed 3 stories where 2 ½ stories is allowed. Incomplete on 5/6/16. This is the currently unoccupied house on Green Village Road adjacent to Loantaka Brook at the intersection with Britten Road owned by R. Gunn. CTEC has submitted several letters to the DEP about this property concerning exceptional resource wetlands and the required 300 foot stream buffer. PENDING.

## REPORTS

- Water Quality Subcommittee – Peter Gallagher has organized a “Drinking Water Quality Event” “Water and Wine” with Chatham Borough to educate residence regarding local drinking water. This is an educational event with a social flair. - P. Gallagher, Water Quality Committee Chair

## DRINKING WATER QUALITY EVENT

- Date: Thursday, Oct. 20, 7:30-8:30
- Venue: Charlie Brown's Restaurant, Chatham
- Speakers: New Jersey American Water and Garden State Labs
- Publicity: Patch, Tap, flyers etc.
- Setup

- Planning Board – recent meetings cancelled due to lack of business.  
D. Travisano, Planning Board liaison.

- Township Committee – Agenda item – Continued discussions on Third Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan.

- Board of Health – Flu influenza immunizations will be available to Chatham residents in October. Check Board of Health schedule. K. Swartz, Township Committee and Board of Health liaison.

- Open Space Committee

- Proposals to build 54 units on Dixiedale Farm and affordable units on the skate park.
- Fenske property, 15.6 vacant acres, on Southern Boulevard (Block: 48.16, Lot: 121) is for sale. Most of the property is wetlands or transition areas. Property backs up to the Refuge and is adjacent to Nash Field. Saturday, October 22, Averett property maintenance and mulch spreading. Marilyn Murray, Open Space liaison.

- Recycling Committee – Karen Swartz reported that she, Tom Ciccarone, and MUA met regarding Tanglewood recycling issues. MUA will install a recycling compactor and remove the dumpsters. Additionally, the recycling contract is up for renewal and MUA will price out weekly recycling pickup as a comparison. Unfortunately, as commodity prices go down and county prices increase, weekly recycling is not cost effective.

F. Esposito, Chair, and M. Murray

#### NOTES AND DISCUSSION

- New and very good NJDEP website for maps, parcels and environmental information at NJ-GeoWeb, <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/gis/geoweb splash.htm>. Use Internet Explorer.
- Very good Morris County mapping utility at <http://morrisgisapps.co.morris.nj.us/apps/parcelsearcher.html>, hit Map or Advanced Data Search. Gives information about each parcel and has aerials layer.
- Possible projects for grants. Trails on the Green Village Pond Conservation Area and former Kirby tract? Nash Field to Green Village Road?

#### RECENT LETTERS SENT

- May 2016. Memo to Planning Board regarding disturbances of conservation easements in the High Gate subdivision. Letter to NJDEP urging care in delineating and classifying wetlands on a property on Loantaka Lane South.
- March 2016. Letter to PSE&G urging great care in removing vegetation in powerline rights-of-way.
- February 2016. Memo to Board of Adjustment regarding a proposed steep slope disturbance.
- January 2016. Two letters to NJDEP concerning applications for LOI.

#### EVENTS

- Friday, October 14th and Saturday, October 15th Stream School at Rutgers Gardens - Techniques to Monitor and Protect Your Local Streams. This two-day, interactive classroom and field workshop will enable participants to collect and identify the macroinvertebrates or "bugs" that live in our streams and are indicators of clean water. \$15. Flyer at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/wms/Fall%202016%20flyer%20rev.pdf>. Register by Oct. 7.

#### MAIL RECEIVED

- Minutes of meetings of Long Hill Environmental Commission.
- Notices and flyers.

ADJOURN 9:03

Carolyn Scannelli