

Chatham Township Environmental Commission
58 Meyersville Rd, Chatham, NJ 07928, 973-635-4600
Minutes of the Tuesday June 12, 2018

The meeting of the Chatham Township Environmental Commission convened at 7:24 pm on Tuesday, June 12, 2018, at the Township Municipal Building. In attendance were CTEC members, Frank Esposito, Maureen Kelly, Christina Mott, and Dot Stillinger. Absent: Cara Feeser, Peter Gallagher, Matt Palmer, Jessica Romeo and Don Trivisano and Township Committee Liaison Karen Swartz.

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 2018 January 2019 is posted on the main bulletin board at the Township municipal building and on the Chatham Township website at 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 2018 AND JANUARY 2019
Tuesday February 6, Tuesday March 6, Tuesday April 3, Tuesday May 1, Tuesday June 12 (avoid Primary Election day), no meeting in July, Tuesday August 7, Tuesday September 11 (avoid Labor Day), Tuesday October 2, Tuesday November 13 (avoid Election Day), Tuesday December 4, Tuesday January 8, 2019.

Maureen Kelly motioned to approve the May 1, 2018 CTEC and Green Team minutes and Frank Esposito 2nd, with all in favor.

GREEN TEAM MEETING (7:25-7:55) M. Kelly - Green Team Chair, J. Romeo - Green Team Vice Chair,

- Looking ahead to 2021 and possible Silver certification, can be difficult but have ideas of possible actions.
- Municipal energy audit was redone by S. Carroll, and added to Sustainable Jersey recertification.
- SUSTAINABLE JERSEY APPLICATION SUBMITTED FOR 200 POINTS Congratulations to Steve Carroll for once again submitting more than the required number of points for Sustainable Jersey certification for Chatham Township. Steve requested approval for 19 actions worth 200 points.
- Approval needed for 150 points to qualify for Bronze certification. One of the actions was an energy audit for the Township, which involved examining fuel and energy bills for all township operations. Steve could frequently be seen at Township Hall entering figures into a spreadsheet. Thanks for all those endless hours, Steve, and for the detailed and time consuming work of preparing all the action items in the form required by Sustainable Jersey.
- REPORT ON ROLLING KNOLLS MEETINGS ON JUNE 4 EPA held two informational sessions on June 4 concerning plans to cleanup Rolling Knolls, the superfund site at the end of Britten Rd. If you attended please plan to report. Christina Mott (evening session) and Maureen Kelly (afternoon session) attended the meeting. Christina stated that although some EPA members were present, the risk assessors were not. Some of the excerpts from the meeting included: that the area is only used by wildlife. Hydro dynamics is maintained, chemical stabilization is ruled out. Volatile chemicals contribute to the smell. There are few acres of contaminated soil; underground water testing is fine, surface water is not. These are long term issues; something will be done depending on feasibility. They stated another meeting will take place sometime during the summer.

After some discussion, CTEC decided to take action and will draft a comment report to be reviewed by email for a possible submission at the EPA summer meeting. Maureen Kelly motioned to approve and Frank Esposito 2nd, with all in favor. This letter may be submitted for consideration if and when a comment period is available.

REVIEW UPDATED CONSERVATION INVENTORY AND MAP

- Chatham Township holds about 47 conservation easements protecting about 78 acres, a mix of steep slopes and wetlands, and the NJDEP holds about 17 conservation easements protecting about 71 acres, mostly wetlands. This does not include land protected by easements required because the acquisition was made using Green Acres funds. See <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/greenacres/ga50/db.html> and <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/greenacres/openspace.html> for the list of Green Acres parcels. The easements acquired by Chatham Township protect sensitive areas not under the jurisdiction of any other agency.
- The map shows non-Green Acres conservation easements held by Chatham Township, the NJDEP, an easement held by the Great Swamp Watershed Association, and a trail easement. Frank Esposito motioned to approve the inclusion of the map in the NRI and Maureen Kelly 2nd with all in favor.

ISSUES - PILGRIM PIPELINE, OFFSHORE DRILLING

- Rumors that Pilgrim is beginning to apply for permits.
- Visit <http://www.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=af162ec18761444b929957b8c82ab903>

For detailed Pilgrim Pipeline information developed by Drew professor Lisa Jordan and her students. The map is also on the EC website. Click anywhere on a map for information about that object.

APPLICATION/ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT REVIEW

- 446 Green Village Road, Mads & Sari Jepsen, Block 144, Lot 50, April 1, 2016, 10-28-17. 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, resubmitted on 10-28-17. This is the currently unoccupied house on Green Village Road adjacent to Loantaka Brook at the intersection with Britten Road previously owned by R. Gunn. CTEC has submitted several letters to the DEP about this property concerning its exceptional resource wetlands and the required 300 foot stream buffer. CTEC asked the Board of Adjustment to request a conservation easement on most of the wetlands. **PENDING.**
- 11 Sunset Drive, Golden River Homes LLC, Block 61, Lot 16. 10-16-17. Application to Board of Adjustment, requesting variances for construction of a single family home. Steep slopes, drains to Great Swamp, previous application to BOA was denied. CTEC will follow this application. **PENDING.**
- 341 Green Village Road, Aleksandra Bury, Block 48.17, Lot 133. Application to the Board of Adjustment requesting front yard and side yard setback variances for a reconstruction on existing foundation. Incomplete on 8/14/17. A tributary of Black Brook almost bisects the property, wetlands are found on the rear of the property, rear property line adjoins Chatham Township property, which is almost all wetlands. Application 4-24-18 to NJDEP for wetlands permits 8, 10B and 24 for house and driveway addition and septic replacement. CTEC will follow this application. **PENDING.**

REPORTS

- Communications Committee F. Esposito, Chair. – Frank will update the EC webpage and would like pictures from the river cleanup work day and seedling giveaway to add to the webpage.

- Recycling Committee F. Esposito, Chair – Updated Tonnage report received by email.

NOTES AND DISCUSSION

- New NJDEP website for maps, parcels and environmental information at NJ- GeoWeb, <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/gis/geoweb splash.htm>. Use Internet Explorer.
- Morris County mapping utility at <http://morrisgisapps.co.morris.nj.us/apps/parcelsearcher.html>, hit Map and use the i tool. Gives information about each parcel and has aerials layer. Search for more detailed information about a parcel at <http://mcweb1.co.morris.nj.us/MCTaxBoard/>. Use Microsoft Internet Explorer for both.

RECENT LETTERS SENT

- February 2018. Memo to Board of Adjustment regarding unauthorized clearcutting on a Club Road parcel and request for conservation easement on the wetland transition area portion. Memo to Board of Adjustment requesting conservation easement on portion of a property being developed on Green Village Road which is almost entirely wetlands or transition areas.
- May 2017. Letter to the NJDEP regarding an application for vegetation removal on steep slopes in a wetland transition area.

MAIL RECEIVED

Monthly financial report

Minutes of recent meetings of the Long Hill Township and Chatham Borough Environmental Commissions

ADJOURN 8:57

Carolyn Scannelli
Minutes Secretary