

**EWING TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**  
**Board Room at Ewing Senior Center**  
**999 Lower Ferry Road**  
**Ewing, NJ 08628**  
**January 19, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

2016

**I. CALL TO ORDER-OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT:**

Chair Lee Farnham called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM. He began by reading the following statement: "The notice requirements provided for in the Open Public Meetings Act have been satisfied. The Ewing Township Council properly gave notice of this meeting in the resolution on January 1, ~~2015~~ which was filed with the Clerk and posted in the Ewing Township Municipal Complex, and has been sent to the Times of Trenton and the Trentonian newspapers."

**II. Roll Call:** Lee Farnham, John Hoegl, Dan Burke, Jo Ann Povia, Joe Mirabella, Bruce Black  
Guests: Susan Lee, Mayor Bert Steinman

**III. Minutes:** December 15, 2015 minutes approved.

**IV.** Mayor Steinman swore in members Passe, Povia, Burke, and Black.

**V.** Statements from the general public: None

**VI. Election of Officers:**

- Dan Burke was appointed last Thursday as Planning Board Representative. The Board officially approved his appointment.
- Jeff Passe was elected Secretary.
- John Hoegl was elected Vice-Chair.
- Joe Mirabella was elected as Chair.

**VII. Committee Reports**

- a) Planning Board (Dan Burke) no applicants
- b) Site Review (Ann Farnham written report)- both applicants did not appear.
- c) Green Team - (John Hoegl) - Energy auditor will be hired to help secure energy upgrades, which will earn points toward Sustainable Jersey certification. They are planning to offer services to low income residents to get energy audits. Direct Install program was put on hold. A new contractor will run that program. The outreach program was previously unsuccessful due to low return.
- d) Hassan Malik will speak to us next month on bare root tree planting.
- e) Social Media (Joanne Mallowney sent a message reminding everyone to send her content). Susan Lee offered to make a contribution.
- f) Tree of the Month - (Ann Farnham sent a written message) February is White Atlantic Cedar, an evergreen. March will be the first "Stop! Do not plant these!" column

- g) Johnson Trolley Trail (Dan Burke & Joe Mirabella) - materials will be purchased by Dan next month. He will submit an invoice to the town, No regulatory obstacles are foreseen. The area will need to be prepared. A backhoe will be needed. Question is whether township will pay for it. A sign would cost \$270 if plastic. An advantage is that the plastic can be cleaned of graffiti. John Hoegl will weigh in on the best type of plastic.

#### **VIII. Old Business.**

- a) Pipeline News - (Jo Ann Povia) There will be an informational meeting on Thursday in Hopewell.
- b) Watson Park - planting should be preceded by re-grading and debris removal. A maintenance plan will also be needed. A meeting will be set up with town leaders. Hoping to do on Arbor Day 4/29. Project may be a good fit for the new ANJEC grant for EC projects.
- c) Outreach (Bruce Black) -Lower Makefield has a town supervisor at each meeting. Discussion about whether we should have one too. They're trying to preserve all open space with township support. Discussion included emphasizing green open space preservation in Ewing.
- d) NJDEP CSIP grant - (Lee Farnham) - Tree planting on public land project- \$20,000 grant from Sustainable Jersey will be explored. Trying to improve 27% tree cover in Ewing. Bill Brash, a certified forester, will advise.
- e) EAB - (Dan Burke) The mayor would like a regional approach. Jo Ann Povia will check with Mercer County Planning Office.

#### **IX. New Business.**

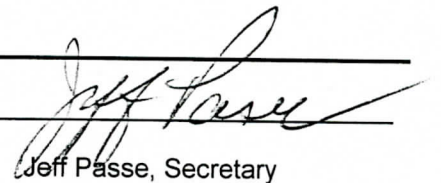
- a) Scudders Falls Bridge - (Lee Farnham) - No Net Loss, DEP program, requires tree replanting or a fee, when trees are cut down. Robbinsville received millions of dollars through this. Bridge will be 10.4 acres, with 8.9 on DOT property. The difference is 315 trees totaling \$94000 coming to Ewing. Money may come this year. Also, DER says 237 trees will be planted in a D&R park or donate money for shade tree fund. Jim M will consider a drafted letter. Bruce suggested that private planting will be needed to reach 40% canopy.
- b) ANJEC new member training is in March with no charge for EEC members. Several of us may attend.
- c) Lee needs number of volunteer hours for annual report.
- d) Feb 24 at ECC Environment Insight series presentation by Joe M at 7 pm

8:41 adjournment

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Mirabella", written over a horizontal line.

Joseph Mirabella, Chair

3/27/16

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jeff Passe", written over a horizontal line.

Jeff Passe, Secretary