

# CHESTERFIELD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

OCTOBER 27, 2015

Chairperson Scarafile called the meeting of the Chesterfield Township Environmental Commission to order at 7:33M. The Open Public Meetings Act Statement was read and compliance noted.

Present Nancy Scarafile, Martha Veselka, Jane Ryan, Karl Braun, F. Gerry Spence  
Absent: Elise Bremer-Nei and Michael Hlubik.

## MINUTES

September 22, 2015

A motion was made by Ms. Veselka seconded Ms. Ryan to approve the September 22, 2015 meeting minutes. All were in favor, with the exception of Mr. Braun who abstained. Motion carried

## CORRESPONDENCE

Arbor Day  
Tree City USA Bulletin Annual Report

## PLANNING BOARD APPLICATIONS

None

## DISCUSSION

League of Municipalities (Receiving Bronze Award)

No one can attend, Ms. Scarafile will inquire on what it details and she will try to make it.

Tree keepers

Ms. Ryan reported that on the walking track along Newbold lane there is a few poke weeds, she cut down about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of one plant and there is more to do. She suggested that we look into an adopt a tree program in the Spring maybe kids will need to get some community service for scouts. The board decided to have a clean up the park day on November 7<sup>th</sup> from 9:30am till 11:30am. The secretary will put this on the website to invite the public as well. In regard to Charlotte Rogers Park, Ms. Scarafile stated that a resident had cut down trees on the Township property and that the Township will be addressing that issue. At the Recklesstown Park there is a beaver issue and they are eating the newly planted trees, Ms. Scarafile will send a memo to the Township Committee asking for metal tree guards to be placed on the trees. Also residents are dumping yard debris which she will also write a memo advising of such.

## Emerald Ash Borer

Ms. Scarafile and Ms. Veselka attended a seminar in AC regarding the EAB. They suggested that the Township have a management plan. There is nothing that can be done until they are present. The chemicals used are extremely toxic to bees and the cost is approx. \$100 per tree. Although it is not yet a problem in New Jersey most Nursery's are watching for it. Ms. Scarafile passed out a synopsis of what was given to her at the class she attended at the NJ Shade Tree Conference.

## Implications of the Compressor Station

Agnes Marsala attended the meeting and she presented the board with thoughts and pictures on the proposed NJ Natural Gas Compressor Station. She pointed out that NJ Natural Gas has to move the product from their fracking operations in PA, The Township was misinformed when the parcel of land was sold, there is a registered Historic place in the area, the noise level added to the turnpike will increase substantially, there is no need for a compressor station. If and when there are leaks the air will be polluted. Belinda Blasic stated that she has done research and found that there have been many law suits but the pipeline has denied all claims due to lack of evidence. However on family won because they documented when the compressor leaked and when it blew down and related that to how often they went to the doctors. The board decided to send a memo to the Township Committee and also the Planning Board recommending that compressor stations not be allowed in any zone in Chesterfield Township. The board asked the secretary to obtain a copy of the sale agreement made between the Township and NJ Natural Gas.

F. Gerry Spence left the meeting @ 8:29pm

Ms. Veselka suggested the memo include that the EC recommends that the Township oppose the Compressor and oppose the Pipeline. The public needs to be advised and encouraged to attend the meetings.

## **ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Mr. Braun brought up the discussion about an arboretum. Ms. Veselka asked that this be table till next year due to the focus on the pipeline. Mr. Braun will reach out to the scouts to see if they would be interested in taking on the project at the park on Margerum Road.

Regina Colon suggested setting up a Green Team meeting. They will meet on November 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 following the clean up the park.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Braun and seconded by Ms. Veselka to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Aggie Napoleon, Secretary