

WARREN TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

January 15, 2019 – 7:00 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The Environmental Commission (EC) of Warren Township, in the County of Somerset and State of New Jersey convened in a Regular Meeting at the Warren Township Municipal Building, 46 Mountain Blvd., Warren, New Jersey on Tuesday, January 15, 2019.

Laura Mandell called the meeting to order at 7:05PM.

Flag salute

Pursuant to the requirement of Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, Adequate notice of this meeting was given by posting a copy on the Township Bulletin Board and sending a copy to the Township Clerk, Echoes Sentinel and Courier News as required by the Open Public Meetings Act. All Commissioners are duly appointed volunteers working for the Township of Warren.

II. Roll Call

Present: Laura Mandell, Phil Lobo, Karen Task, Susan Zeitels, Wayne DeFeo, Karen Kaiser
Absent: Harold Black, Sal Di Bianca, Sandra Ponzio

III. Discussion

Laura Mandell introduced two new members Wayne DeFeo and Karen Kaiser to the committee. The October meeting minutes were reviewed by the members who attended that meeting. Karen Task made a motion to approve the minutes and Susan Zeitels seconded it. The WEC meetings will now be held on the second Tuesday of the month with the exception of October 8th. That meeting will most likely be held on October 22, 2019.

Laura Mandell discussed the ANJEC (Association of NJ Environmental Commissions) members' workshops and annual Environmental Congress. As members of ANJEC the WEC is able to attend the ANJEC events and workshops. Laura mentioned the Fundamentals of Environmental Commissions workshops are coming up in March and that the Environmental Congress takes place in the fall. She recommends all members who have not attended do so.

Laura Mandell shared with the group that the township has two applications for funding the installation of the dual electric vehicle charging station. One with Sustainable Jersey Grant and one with the NJ Department of Environmental Protection. We expect to know in January if these grants are approved. Laura would like the town to hold an event inviting residents, committee members, county Freeholders and the media to showcase the charging station.

As per the Township Committee's January 4 reorganization meeting, Laura Mandell also shared with the group that WEC will now be responsible for making recommendations on Traffic Advisory and Open Space for Warren Township. When there are not site plans to review, She discussed possibly having the Warren Township Police Traffic personnel attend and a former member of the Open Space Committee separately attend a WEC meeting. Regarding traffic advisory role, the group discussed a citizen engagement project including creating a program where residents via an app or social media notify other residents of hazardous road conditions including flooding, icing, trees down, etc. ***Note the Traffic Advisory responsibilities will not be handled by WEC. That was a clerical error made by the town attorney.**

In regard to Open Space, Laura Mandell explained this will be a priority for WEC. There are currently 423 lots that are not developed. WEC will review the options, prepare a plan, and make recommendation to purchase open space lots for land preservation.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. CASE: PB 18-05
BLOCK/LOT BL 60 Lot 44.04 7 Brookside Drive
DATE: December 11, 20198
APPLICANT: **Anthony Paoella**
Engineer: Bob Gazzale
Attorney: Joseph Sordillo
Proposal: Minor Subdivision

COMMENTS BY WARREN ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION:

1. WEC recommends that the request for the environmental assessment waiver be denied.
2. Due to the wetlands, riparian buffer and floodplains on this property, WEC recommends the environmental assessment be seen before any plans are reviewed and/or approved.
3. Please see the wetlands map provided by WEC.

2. CASE: BA18-13
BLOCK/LOT BL 88 Lot 7- Peachtree Lane
DATE: December 26, 2018
APPLICANT: **Anthony Paoella**
Engineer: Page-Mueller Engineering Consultants, PC
Attorney: Joseph Sordillo
Proposal: Minor Site Plan, Bulk Variance, FAR

1. Please see the attached designated map that shows wetlands covers this property.
2. WEC requests the 1/2 acre zoning prevail and the application to split the property into two lots be denied.
3. WEC recommends the FAR be denied..

V. Adjournment – 8:44pm Laura Mandell made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Wayne DeFeo seconded it.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2019 at 7:00PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Krisann Bintley, Secretary
Environmental Commission