

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Tenafly Environmental Commission
Municipal Center
May 17, 2012**

Present

Joe Lavin, Jeff Toonkel, Dave Cavilla, Jon Warms, Jeff Miller, Jim Coyle & Bob Beutel

Guests

Mark Feldman

Joe Lavin called the meeting to order at 8:04 p.m.

Review of March Minutes

Jeff miller motioned to accept the April minutes with corrections and was seconded by Dave Cavilla.

Bergen County Environmental Council

Joe Lavin noted that 2012 may bring many new pest concerns due to the recent warm winter. This was discussed in detail by Joel Flagler, the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Agent, at the BCE Council meeting.

Ray Cywinski, the Mayor of Demarest and a United Water Representative discussed the conditions of the reservoirs to the attendees.

Members of the TEC discussed the issue of pervious paving, which should be considered by the Planning Board as a potential offset against impervious lot coverage. Pervious paving materials might be used in place of seepage tanks in marginal need situations or to offset a portion of pervious lot coverage.

Bill Sheehan spoke about combined sanitary/ storm sewer systems having an impact on local rivers. This issue pertains mainly to larger cities such as Hackensack.

Green Team

Mayor Rustin is forming a Wellness Committee which will be headed by the Recreation Department as reported by Bob Beutel.

Goals 2012

Sustainable NJ

Public Service Electric & Gas has \$200,000 available for grants relating to the Sustainable NJ Program. Submissions must be entered before July 15th.

Joe discussed per capita garbage totals that have almost doubled in the US- from 2.7lbs in 1950 to 4.5lbs today. Tenafly residents recycle approximately 60% of their rubbish, while the rest of the state is closer to 45%.

Potential Projects/ Grants

- Rigid plastic recycling
- Construction waste
- Food waste
- EPA Wise Partner (may require significant record keeping)
- Water Conservation Education

Bob mentioned the Quality of Life Commission is working on getting food establishments to install grease traps

Jeff asked if we could improve water conservation and develop a program to distribute water reducing faucet parts.

Other Discussion

Dog Park

Jon Warms noted there is no activity at this time

Quiet Zone

Jon Warm noted there is no new s from the Mayor and Council at this time

Tree Ordinance

Bob Beutel has submitted a revised version to the Mayor & Council

Kim Property

Jon noted that no progress has been made on permitting. As no approval has been received from NJ, there is a chance Tenafly may lose approximately one million dollars held in the Affordable Housing account.

Synthetic Turf/Open Space

Jeff Toonkel noted that there is pressure to use municipal funds Open Space Funds to build synthetic fields. This is of concern as the field most discussed is owned by the Board of Education. The funds are earmarked for the purchase of open space or land that may be of value for preservation. There is concern that the Open Space Fund could be used for recreation land.

Mark Feldman explained the Recreation Department is in support of the Board of Education improving Guisinger Field (High school field adjacent to the Tenafly Middle School).

Planning Board

Jeff Toonkel reports there is little activity at this time.

Meeting was adjourned at 9.14PM

Respectfully submitted by David Cavilla