

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Tenafly Environmental Commission  
Municipal Center  
October 18, 2012**

**Present**

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

**Guests**

Mike Neus- President of the Tenafly Nature Center

Jennifer Kleinbaum- Director of TNC

David Cavilla called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

**Review of September Minutes**

Jeff Toonkel motioned to accept the September minutes with corrections and was seconded by Jeff Miller.

**Tenafly Nature Center**

Mike Neus presented information on a plan by the TNC to construct a new building off East Clinton Ave on less than 2 acres – opposite Kent Rd. He discussed the new building will be about 7500 square feet, built on a slab and will utilize modern energy efficient technologies. It would be designed by a LEED certified architect know for Green Building. Although the new building would require the use of preserved Green Acres land, it is allowable under their land use parameters. Mike mentioned the TNC plans to present the information to the Mayor and Council at a late October and November Meeting. A lease extension approval by M& C would be necessary prior to solicitation of funds for design and construction.

Joe Lavin asked if the parking areas would be pervious. Mike replied it would be and the building was to be designed by Randy Croxton , one of the top environmental architect in the US. He added that the goal is to seek LEED Certification. Gold certification will be sought if grant money is available to cover the difference.

Jeff asked if they were planning to reuse gray water, rain water and whether they would utilize a green roof. Mike explained the green roof in not practical as there is too much shade, but water reuse will be reviewed.

Bob Beutel asked if the TNC had contacted Bergen County since they own East Clinton Ave. Mike indicated that they had and a deceleration lane may be necessary.

Mike explained the project could take 2.5 years if fundraising is in place, however 5 years is a more realistic time frame. The future use of the Readfield building would be discussed if the project moves forward.

Joe Lavin proposed "The TEC supports the construction of the TNC Education and Discovery Center on Clinton Ave. David Cavilla seconded the motion. All TEC members were in favor.

### **Green Team**

Joe Lavin detailed the grant approval from Walmart for Sustainable NJ. The \$2000 grant will cover funding of the Sustainable Tenaflly Pamphlet. Dave Cavilla, Jeff Toonkel and Bob Beutel agreed to work on the pamphlet, using a similar format to that of Fairlawn. Some of the topics to cover are:

Recycle – Transfer Station  
Reuse- Cut it and leave it  
Reduce- Energy consumption

Clean Air (anti-idling)  
Clean water (storm water & sump pump discharge)

### **Planning Board**

Jeff noted that there are no changes or applications at this time.

### **Other Discussion**

Jeff mentioned that the Tenaflly M& C is in agreement with using a municipal parking lot on the corner of Tenaflly and Riveredge Rd for a soccer practice area.

The 311 Tenaflly Rd property project should be approved with minor modifications.

Jim Coyle asked Bob about the status of the Tree Ordinance. Bob noted it had been submitted to the M & C.

Meeting was adjourned at 9.34PM

Respectfully submitted by David Cavilla