

# UPPER DEERFIELD TOWNSHIP

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## *ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION*

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1325 State Highway 77  
Seabrook, NJ 08302

The regular meeting of the Environmental Commission of the Township of Upper Deerfield was held on Wednesday, July 3, 2013 at 7:00 P.M. in the Municipal Building, Seabrook, New Jersey.

The meeting was called to order and the following Notice was read:

This is a regularly scheduled meeting of the Environmental Commission Of the Township of Upper Deerfield. In compliance with the The Open Public Meetings Act and a schedule of regular meetings Containing the time and location and date of each meeting was Posted in the Municipal Building at Seabrook, New Jersey, which Notice has remained so posted throughout the year and copies of The regular meetings have been mailed to the South Jersey Times and filed with the Township Clerk in compliance with said Act.

Roll call was taken.

Those present were:

Members: Blake Maloney, Sandra Morrissey, Lynn Maun, Steven Smith, Eileen Clark, and

Alternates: William Waterman and Jack Waselik

Members Absent: Ken Lavine, and Caroline Owens.

Staff: Secretary, Teresa Warburton., And Liaison: John T. O'Neill, Sr.

On motion of Lynn Maun, seconded by Sandy Morrissey to approve the minutes of May 1, 2013, unanimously carried

On motion of William Waterman, seconded by Sandy Morrissey to approve the minutes of June 5, 2013, unanimously carried

New Business

1. Sharing of environmental observation around township -  
William Waterman – commented that signs are popping up on Richards Road and Big Oak Road with GMO corn/soybeans, round up ready.

Steve Smith – commented that west avenue at the end of first thru fourth streets the storm drain with all the excessive rain neighbors have complained about flooding. Upon further investigation trash has been dumped into the waterway and there are several piles in that area. The Munyon property I walked thru last Saturday and found a large spill (looked like tar) maybe oil and an old crab pot there as well.

2. Correspondence –

a. Cumberland County Agricultural Board will be holding a public hearing on July 10, 2013 at the Cumberland County 4-h Center in Rosenhayn, to update the State and Federal funding for farmland preservation program and updating the program.

b. last year the board discussed the Anjec Governer's Council awards and would like to setup a committee to prepare the documents so that we can apply for this year. Lynn Maun, Blake Maloney, and will report back to the committee with updates.

3. Legislative Issues:

Status of Repealing NJDEP Waiver Rule see bill SCR 59– William Waterman reported that SCR59 and ACR 206 Mr. Waterman called Sweeney's office and all they did was take my name and number. Sandy Morrissey tried to check the status of SCR59 and now ACR 206 is identical and is currently in the assembly for a second read. Mr. Waterman thinks that ACR 206 has already passed the Assembly.

Open Space Funding – see the letter attached each member of the Environmental Commission should call or send letters into the assembly representatives on a personal level it would have more of an impact than sending a letter from the Environmental Commission.

4. Workshops/Activities

a) Birding Workshop – June 11, 2013, Blake Maloney thought it went well and would like to see more attend in the future. The commission discussed not having any workshops in the month of June with the end of school and sports programs.

b.) Climate Change – October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013 – a copy was sent to Roy Spoltore for the newsletter to update the residents of Upper Deerfield. Teresa was asked by the committee to update the Environmental Commissions Chairpersons name, address that surround Upper Deerfield and Cumberland County. The list will be used for mailing a flyer for the Climate Change Workshop.

5. Committee Reports

A) Planning Board/Zoning Board – Eileen Clark attended the last meeting and they are currently working on the Cluster Development split zone parcels. Mr. O'Neill, Sr. expanded on the Cluster Development on approved and court challenged projects, etc. Changing how we address applications with side yard and rear yard setbacks on the smaller lots. Randy Scheule is looking into doing some administrative changes. Eileen Clark suggested that approval times should be looked into. The Steliga properties, the township just recently got thru tax sale approximately 15 acres total at the headwaters of the cohansy. If the township decided to off load the property it would have to done in public thru a bidding process. Eileen Clark recommends that we update the ERI & Open Space Recreation Plan. Blake Maloney will touch base with Randy.

b) Recreation Commission – Ken Lavine – No Report.

c) Economic Development – No Report.

d) Open Space Advisory Committee – No Report.

- e) Cohansey Area Watershed Association – Blake reported that the next meeting is set for 7/11/13 at 10am at the Sheppard House and will be discussing a logo for the group. Anyone is welcome to the meetings, last month the group is now a 501 3 C status and now currently have a website and facebook page.
  - f) Trails Committee – No Report
6. Unfinished Business –
- a) SJ Quail Project response letter – a response letter is to be sent to NJ Director of Fish and wildlife Larry Harrety, since the NJ Fish and Wildlife has teamed with retired biologist who has developed a restoration plan the fish and wildlife has developed another plan on the restoration of the Bob White Quail. The Audubon Society has been working with Atlantic City Electric on the Utility Easements for habitats for the birds and wildlife. The NJ Fish and Wildlife needs to accept the plan before Larry Niles can go and get funding to put this program underway. A sample letter was provided and the SJ Quail Project will be doing another presentation on 7/23/13 in Pilesgrove if anyone would like to attend. The Upper Deerfield Township Environmental Commission supports the Larry Niles Bob White Quail Restoration plan. On motion of William Waterman, second by Lynn Maun to send out the letter on the support.
  - b) Mowing Plan for Munyon Property – A maintenance plan for the Upper Deerfield Wildlife Nature Preserve was presented by Steve Smith and Sandy Morrissey to the committee for approval to take this tentative plan before the Township Committee. On motion of William Waterman, seconded by Jack Waselik to present plan to Township Committee. Sandy Morrissey will email Roy Spoltore to be added on the July 18, 2013 township committee meeting agenda.

### **Review & Status of Development Application**

Dr. Levitsky – 21 Silver Brook Drive Block 1105 Lot 11 – No Comment.

Verizon Wireless – 15 Cornwell Drive Block 1208 Lot 4 – No Comment.

### **Member's Comments**

William Waterman – commented that if the people found the dumping and witnessed it they should contact Steve Clark at the Cumberland County Improvement Authority to report the illegal dumping.

Lynn Maun – commented that the rainfall total is 9.95 inches in Cumberland County which is .05 less than Salem County. Mr. O'Neill reported that at a rate of 6" per hour 60 people reported over 11" of rain.

Steve Smith – commented that the mosquito commission cleaned up the waterway along the senior center to keep the woody brush at bay a few years ago but it will need to be cleaned up again in some areas.

**Public Comments**

Nancy Ridgway – commented on the open space you were working on when I started attending your meetings shows my property is listed as an unknown property and as a citizen it needs to be updated. The Development review of 2014 is going to be difficult for financial on the farmland preservation so I have to wait until 2015.

There being no further business to come before the Board on motion of Sandy Morrissey, seconded by William Waterman to adjourn at 8:15 pm, unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Warburton  
Secretary