

**HOPATCONG ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
FEBRUARY 27, 2008**

The meeting of the Hopatcong Environmental Commission was opened by Mary Takacs at 7:42 p.m. with a statement that this meeting is held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-1 et seq., annual notice having been forwarded to The New Jersey Herald, The Sunday Herald and The Daily Record and posted on the bulletin board maintained in the Municipal Building for public announcements.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Bernice Gleason
Pat Gleason
Sharon Gruber
Elizabeth Mauro
Sheryl Nowell
Mary Takacs
ABSENT Sam Hoagland

Also in attendance:
Council Liaison, Madeline McManus &
Mr. Dave Berchak

Mary Takacs led the Salute to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 23, 2008 MINUTES

Sharon Gruber made a motion to approve the January 23, 2008 minutes. Pat Gleason seconded the motion and all were in favor.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

HAZMAT

Mary Takacs announced that there was a removal an underground oil tank on December 12, 2007 and it should have been stated at the last meeting.

January 30, 2008 – 209 Elmira Trail, removed underground storage tank and cleanup pending.

There is a Land Conservation Rally on March 8, 2008 at the Hyatt Regency in New Brunswick, NJ

STATUS REPORTS

Elizabeth Mauro reported on the Open Space meeting. Bob Canace, from the Morris Land Conservancy gave a status report and a progress plan on Open Space for the future year. At the Open Space and Trails meeting, Cliff Lundin reported on the Trails Committee. There is going to be a Bear Education Seminar and it's available for the Environmental Commission. The Environmental Commission agreed that we need more education on the new energy saving light bulbs.

Sharon Gruber reported on the Trails meeting and what trail to be concentrating on. This is the trail that starts at the high school parking lot and follows the cross-country team course. Scott Wallis has applied for grants with the Fire Wise Program to help clean up the trails. May 10th and September 27th are the dates set aside for the recycling program.

Bernice Gleason reported on the water testing, and it turned out okay.

Sheryl Nowell would like to publicly announce that the new format for the Hopatcong Newsletter is much more reader friendly. Sheryl Nowell said that on March 3, 2008 there is a special meeting with Mayor and Council regarding the Highlands.

Sharon Gruber spoke about the weed management in Lake Hopatcong.

Mary Takacs talked about the article on ATV's and what it's doing to virgin woods. Mary Takacs spoke to Police Chief John Swanson on this matter and Mary also went to Lorraine Stark for a copy of Ordinance 163-7 regarding vehicles. Mary Takacs read the ordinance. Dave Berchak attended the meeting this evening. Dave Berchak spoke about the problems with the ATV's. Sheryl Nowell suggested calling ANJEC to see if they have any rules to manage the ATV's. The Environmental Commission continued to discuss the ways to enforce the law against riding the ATV's into the wooded areas. Dave Berchak spoke of getting together with Ron Jobeless and collecting refrigerated appliances.

ADJOURN

Sharon Gruber made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 p.m. Pat Gleason seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Submitted by,

Marie Filoso
Recording Secretary