



B O R O U G H O F R A R I T A N

MUNICIPAL BUILDING
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ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

January 21, 2016

Chairman Kovac called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Chairman Kovac read the following Open Public Meetings Act Statement:

“In accordance with Section 5 of the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, Public Law 1975, be advised that adequate notice of this Meeting of the Environmental Commission of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset was made by the posting on the bulletin board at the Borough Hall and transmitted to the officially designated newspapers indicating that this Meeting would take place at the Borough Hall, Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m. on January 21, 2016. In addition a copy of this notice is and has been made available to the public and is on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.”

The roll call was as follows:

Present: Bryanna Danyluk, Council Liaison, Michael DeCicco, Thomas Delacruz, Jerry Kovac, Chairman, Ann Marie McCarthy, Secretary, Eric Wilde, Rick Zack, Planning Board Liaison
Absent: Olga Metaxas (Excused)

Everyone present participated in the Salute to the Flag. Chairman Kovac welcomed new members Michael DeCicco; Eric Wilde and Council Liaison Bryanna Danyluk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Kovac presented the following minutes for approval: October 21, 2015 and November 19, 2015. The aforesaid minutes were approved upon motion by Mr. Zack, seconded by Mr. Delacruz and carried upon voice vote.

REPORT FROM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Councilwoman Danyluk reported she has already signed up for the 26th Annual Stream Clean Up sponsored by the Raritan Headwaters on Saturday, April 16 from 9 am to Noon.

REPORT FROM PLANNING BOARD

Mr. Zack reported there was not a Planning Board meeting in December. He reported on the Raritan River Apartments Orlando Drive project scheduled for final approval. He reported on a property on Route 202 North that is scheduled for approval for a change of zoning from commercial to residential. He spoke on the Barbieri Property (property behind the Post Office) where they have been delays with the project.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

A motion was made by Mr. DeCicco, seconded by Mr. Zack to open the meeting to the public. Said motion carried unanimously upon voice vote.

There being no comments from the public at this time, a motion was made by Ms. Danyluk to close the meeting to the public. Said motion was seconded by Mr. Zack and carried unanimously upon voice vote.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

Mr. DeCicco asked if the Environmental Commission is the venue where someone would complain if property is contaminated. It was replied that property contamination is the jurisdiction of the NJ Department of Environmental Protection. Mr. DeCicco spoke on property along the river that is being bought by the County.

The building on Route 202 where Golden Wok was once located was discussed. Included in the discussion was that the property is a property maintenance issue and it was deemed uninhabitable by the Construction Official for safety reasons. It was noted that the lawsuit was settled and the property sold.

Mr. Delacruz spoke on the medication drop off program through local police departments and Corvan. Mr. Delacruz stated that he would obtain information and bring it to the next meeting.

Mr. Zack spoke of a former program, E-waste where residents were able to bring their electronics to the Washington School. He stated he would speak to Stefanie Gara and/or the County regarding the possibility of re-instituting the program.

A general discussion ensued regarding the cleaning up of contaminated property and redevelopment areas. Also discussion was bringing more recreational areas into the Borough as well as more businesses.

Also discussed was the Environmental Commission's powers and duties and it was noted that the Environmental Commission is an advisory body to the Borough Council. Ms. McCarthy was to send a copy of the state statute and the borough ordinance regarding the Environmental

Commission. The Environmental Commission also makes recommendations to the Planning Board regarding applications brought forth to the Planning Board.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. DeCicco, seconded by Mr. Delacruz to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m. Said motion carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

Approved:
Date:

Ann Marie McCarthy, Secretary