

Vernon Township Environmental Commission

Minutes April 21st, 2025

Meeting called to order 7:00pm by Chair Stephanie DiBrienza

Statement of compliance read out loud by Chair Stephanie DiBrienza

Salute to Flag

Roll Call taken by Chair

Stephanie DiBrienza Chair	PRESENT
Ann Larsen Vice Chair & Land Use Board Liaison	PRESENT
Barbara Jaggi	PRESENT
Catherina Sawoszczyk	PRESENT
Edward Connell	PRESENT

Discussion of Chair responsibilities with agreement to delegate more to commission members. All voiced support to Stephanie as chair. Agree to have chair and vice chair work together on agenda with the goal of having it out earlier than meeting day.

Public Participation

Chair open meeting to public. Mayor Rossi present and voiced support and appreciation of the commission. Chair closed public participation session.

Approval of Minutes

March 17, 2025, minutes presented to commission for approval. Ann Larsen accepted minutes as written. Barbara Jaggi seconded. Minutes accepted. Catherina Sawoszczyk will forward minutes to Irene Mills for posting to township website.

Recording Secretary discussion about hiring a recording secretary. Taping the meetings was discussed. Catherina Sawoszczyk stated she did not mind taking the minutes as she uses it as volunteer work. Taping the meetings would be good to add to the process.

Land Use Liaison Report

1st review and discussion of application plans for a multi-family residential building 19 & 21 Omega Drive (Block 402, Lot 2&3). from Red Hand LLC for a 27-unit apartment building. Commissioners had questions regarding stormwater run-off, fire safety and water availability.

2nd review and discussion of public notice for freshwater wetlands general permit 24. 10 Maple Drive (Block 335, lot 26) septic repair on an existing septic partially in wetlands.

3rd review and discussion of Pleasant Valley Lake West Shore Drive, block 592 lot 69.01 70.01 proposed single family dwelling. Proposal for NJDEP Land Use Regulation Division Flood Hazard Area Verification. Legal notification that an application has been filed. Plans reviewed.

4th review notification for regular maintenance on the Tennessee Pipeline. Legal notification of an application for an authorization under Freshwater Wetlands Statewide General Permit 1 and Flood Hazard Area Individual Permit for this maintenance. Commissioners had questions for LUB liaison to bring forward.

5th review Notification for variances with the NJ DEP for 10 Rolling Hills (Block 251 Block 82.2 lot 17) work to be done in the riparian area. Discussion about effects this would have on the stream and neighbors by commissioners.

6th review JCPL request for several permits from the NJDEP, NJDLRP. Freshwater Wetlands General Permits 1,12,21, Coastal General permit 19 and 23, Coastal Wetlands Permit, Waterfront Development Individual Permit, Flood Hazard Area Individual Permit and Water Quality Certificate for 235 municipalities in 13 counties of NJ for maintenance.

Ann Larsen to bring questions to LUB next meeting

Old Business

Stephanie DiBrienza to follow up with Jenna Black meeting invite.

Barbara Jaggi shared information on her research into assistance with PFAS testing and clean up. Including information on NJ SPILL FUND contact information. Discussion followed and decision for more information needed before posting on town website.

Ann Larsen to follow up with LUB on concerns commissioners had with project reviews.

New Business

Barbara requests to consult with Irene Mills about changing the Vernon Township Environmental Commission meeting day from Monday to another day next year as many meetings fall on 3-day weekends.

Barbara Jaggi motion to adjourn Edward Connell second. Meeting adjourned

Next Meeting May 19th ,2025

Respectfully submitted by Catherina Sawoszczyk