



## **MEETING MINUTES ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

**DATE: Monday, October 17, 2011**

**TIME: 6:30 PM**

1. **CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL**

The Regular Workshop meeting of the Long Branch Environmental Commission on October 17, 2011 came to order at 6:40 PM in the City Hall Caucus Room, 344 Broadway, Long Branch, NJ, having been duly noticed in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act.

Members Present: Faith Teitelbaum, Richard Lee, Carol Mellaci, Jen Smiga  
(alternate), Rich Garlipp

Members Absent: Dick Honymar, Ceil Mancini, Mark Smiga

Others present: Ed Thomas (Planning Board Liaison), Chris Benosky (Green Committee), Michele Bernich (City Liaison), Buzz Baldanza (Green Committee)

2. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

A motion to approve the September minutes with 1 correction was made by Carol and seconded by Rich Lee. Approved by unanimous vote.

3. **COMMUNICATIONS**

4. **REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

- a. Green Committee update: Green Committee member Chris Benosky updated the Commission on the status of the grant for the Troutman's Greenway. He showed the combination drawing and aerial of the area which was submitted as part of the grant. Michele suggested that we do the same for the Tak Lake effort.
- b. Site Plan Review: Ceil reviewed the Sitting Duck site plan and recommended that the commission approve it. Rich L. moved to vote and Jen seconded. Rich G. opposed and all others approved so motion passed.

5. **REPORT OF COMMISSION'S PLANNING BOARD MEMBER** - Ed Thomas said there was a site plan under review for a new restaurant by Seven President's Park.

6. **OLD BUSINESS** - Michele spoke at length about the Sustainable Jersey certification application submitted by the City, including the process and points. Each member now has a list of all the action items, indicating which are mandatory and priority, the number of points for each one and which ones we have completed. We all know the website so that we can get more information on each action item.

Long Branch's certification application indicates completion of between 185 and 215 points, 2 priority action items, 1 mandatory action item and 7 categories out of 16.

The application is under review by Sustainable Jersey for bronze certification. We are looking to get to the next level which requires 350 points. We all agreed to research the projects/action items (especially priority items and ones with grant \$s) and be prepared to discuss how we can work our ongoing projects (Whale Pond Brook/Tak Lake, renewable energy, stormwater, aquatic bodies and wetlands, Jackson Woods) to work towards more points. Some of the projects we discussed were:

Sustainable Land Use Pledge  
Community Forestry Plan and Canopy Goal - Rich Garlipp  
Grounds and Maintenance (IPM into policy update) Jen and Faith  
Recycling - Faith  
Community Education and Outreach - Jen and Carol

7. NEW BUSINESS -

Buzz Baldanza, DPW/Green Committee, announced:

- A Long Branch beach clean-up is scheduled for Saturday, Oct 22.
- Also a letter of intent was submitted by Long Branch DPW to repair the Branchport Park bulkhead.
- A FEMA grant is being worked on to build a new dam at the ocean to replace the one that had to be removed to avert more flooding from Hurricane Irene.

8. HEARINGS OF PUBLIC COMMENT - Vincent LePore spoke about County programs.

9. OTHER – None.

10. ADJOURNMENT – Carol called for a motion to adjourn at 8:40 PM. Rich seconded.

By the order of: Mark Smiga, Chairperson

*NEXT MEETING: Monday, November 14, 2011 @ 6:30 PM*