

WATCHUNG ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES

January 25, 2016

Present: Karen Pennett, Rachel Funcheon, Jim and Andy Stout, George Sopko

Absent: Sody Epstein, Don Pote

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Karen Pennett, Chairperson. The minutes were not approved pending review.

Reorganization: Karen will remain as chairperson with Don, Jim, and Andy as secretaries, and Sody as the tree inspector. George Sopko was welcomed to the Environmental Commission. George will be replacing Rob Gibbs as liaison from the Watchung Borough Council.

Reports:

Tree Matters:

1. December Tree Report 2015—183 Washington Rock road, 12/04/2015—tear down, new house to be built, new tree removal plan, remove 56 live trees which are 34%-36% of lot: Replace with 23 trees at 2 and ½", 2 trees at 4". Tree bond for 25 trees at \$200 equals \$5,000 bond.

Planning Board and Open Space: no reports

Bottle Caps: Preserve in Massachusetts makes razors and toothbrushes from recycled bottle caps. A woman in the Garden Club will help Rachel, and a company in Wisconsin actually recycles caps. Rachel will put on Facebook and write an article for the newsletter. Phillip Lobo gave Rachel many bottle caps and will bring the suggestion to the Warren Environmental Commission about a bottle cap recycling program for the Warren Library. Rachel has set up the bottle cap recycling bin and descriptive poster in the Watchung Library.

Calendar for 2016: Jan. 25, Feb 22, March 28, April 25, May 23, June 27, July—no meeting, August 22, August 22, Sept. 26, October 24, Nov. meeting changed to Dec. 5 to avoid conflicting with Borough Council meeting.

Meetings, Correspondence, Permits: no reports

Other: George will check on status of the houses on the Ness property. Rachel gave an update on the proposed pipeline.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, Feb. 22 at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim and Andy Stout, Acting Secretaries, January 25, 2016 meeting
Watchung Environmental Commission