

Tinton Falls Environmental Commission
July 28, 2011 Minutes

Call to order- 7:40

Attendees - Jon Cohen, Maureen Forsman, Theresa Maltz, Jeff King
Mr. Alec McCartney from NJDEP - community forestry program

Open public meetings act was recited by the chairman.

Mr. McCartney gave a short presentation explaining the value of having a forest management plan in a municipality. The plans typically include goals for the canopy with elements such as a tree planting program, tree ordinance, hazardous tree mitigation program, and mapping & inventory.

If the plan is certified with the State's approval a municipality may receive points in Sustainable Jersey program. Additional points for Sustainable Jersey are earned for education and an annual report of accomplishments and progress (up to 60 points).

Mr. McCartney informed everyone of the annual NJ Shade Tree Federation meeting in October in Cherry Hill. He also mentioned that a member of the Forestry Management Council lives in Tinton Falls, Bill Brasch.

Fliers and literature was given out with more information (also available on the DEP website)

ERI update- There has been no progress in updating the boro environmental resource inventory. Time and funding are both in short supply.

Monmouth University Urban Coast Institute -

The UCI recently completed a coastal watershed conservation and restoration priority index tool. The purpose is to help communities determine sensitive areas for conservation and restoration. A copy of the report and maps of Tinton Falls were sent to the mayor's office and the project managers Fran Varacalli of the Monmouth Conservation Foundation and Bill Shadel of the American Littoral society offered to meet officials and share the findings.

It was announced Community Day will be October 1st.

Fort Monmouth- Mr. Cohen has been asked by the administration to serve on the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) in addition to the environmental advisory group.

The issues are common to both groups and it continues to be a work in progress as the Fort closure date quickly approaches (Sept 15, 2011). The commission appreciates Mr. Cohen's hard work on this.

Planning Board- Mr. King spoke on the only recent application before the Board, Falls

Village. The hearing of July 13 was consumed by the engineer's testimony about the site design, traffic flow, and parking. The engineer did not fully conclude his testimony. The application will be continued on August 10.

Open Public Discussion - none present

Motion to close the meeting 9:00PM - Ms. Maltz Second - Ms. Forsman