

RESORT TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

Resort Township Hall
2232 Resort Pike Petoskey, MI 49770
(231) 347-7915

Tuesday, 6 October 2009; 7:00 P.M.

APPROVED MINUTES

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Call Meeting to Order. The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:04 PM.

C. Roll Call. Present were Chair Al Welsheimer, Vice Chair Leo Simon, Clerk Lucy Eppler, Tom Webster, Chuck Sanback, Mark Furgeson, and Jennifer McKay.

Audience: Christina Rohn, Petoskey News Review

D. Approval of the Agenda.

Vice Chair Simon requested adding a mining complaint to New Business

Motion by Webster

Support by Sanback

To approve the standard agenda as amended.

Voice vote

Ayes

Nays

Six

None

Motion carried.

E. Public Hearings

None scheduled.

F. Brief Public Comment.

None

G. Minutes of Previous Meeting.

Motion by Sanback

Support by Furgeson

To approve the minutes of the 1 September 2009 meeting as amended.

Voice vote

Ayes

Nays

Six

None

Motion carried.

H. Communications to the Committee.

Webster provided the committee members with information about wind and solar power. Sanback noted that it had been reported in the media that Michigan's wetland program had been saved and thanked McKay for work on this effort.

Ferguson indicated a letter had been sent out regarding pine trees at the end of Resort Pike Road. Sanback informed the Committee that the red pines are infested with pine bark beetles resulting in significant dead trees. In attempt to manage the infestation, the pines will be harvested for timber over the next few years with careful consideration given to a nest of Northern Goshawk that was found.

I. Reports from the Members.

Simon inquired into placement of road signs. Eppler indicated that signs in the road right of way are controlled by the County Road Commission unless they are on the highway in which they fall under jurisdiction of MDOT. Business signs can be addressed by the Township zoning administrator, but otherwise, the Township has no jurisdiction.

J. Unfinished Business

Bay Harbor Discussion – Webster expressed concern with respect to CMS diluting leachate collected at East Park and discharging it to Little Traverse Bay. He asked that the Environmental Committee be opposed to this disposal option since it still allows the same amount of toxics to go into the bay. Additional concern was expressed that the well used to pump water for dilution could draw other wells dry. McKay noted that any discharge to the Bay would require a NPDES permit from the Michigan DEQ and CMS has indicated they will be submitting an application for East Park to dilute in order to meet the surface water standard for mercury of 1.3 ppt. The water to dilute will likely come from the upgradient diversion wells which are already installed at East Park, but not operational at this time. McKay further noted that there would be a public comment period during which the Township could participate in the process. Clerk Eppler noted that the Township could be involved but there is nothing for the Township to review at this time. Sanback recommended that this be placed on unfinished business.

Wetland Protection Ordinance –Larry will attend the meeting next month to provide a presentation.

K. New Business.

Three complaint letters were provided to the Committee regarding mining operations and dumping on the Hinkley Property, 2035 W. Sheridan Rd.

L. Announcements.

None

M. Adjournment.

Motion by Sanback
To adjourn the meeting.

Support by Vice Chair Simon

Ayes

Nays

All

None

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned by the Chair at 8:03 P.M.

Note: the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Resort Township Environmental Committee will be held on Tuesday 3, November 2009 at 7:00 PM at Resort Township Hall.