

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
WARREN COUNTY
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Municipal Offices: 211 Route 31 North, Washington, NJ 07882 (908) 689-7209

MEETING MINUTES: July 10, 2012

PUBLIC NOTICE was given through publication in the **Star Gazette** and **Express Times**. Notice was also posted on the municipal bulletin board in the Township Administration Building in Washington Township, New Jersey, and notice was filed with the Township Clerk.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 7:32 p.m.

ROLL CALL

In Attendance: Cheryl Burket, Ron Greenwald, Al Ivany, Charlie Shields, Marilyn Sendell

Absent: Lydia Schmidt (excused)

In attendance representing the Township Committee: Bob Finke

MINUTES

No minutes were available at this meeting

NEW BUSINESS

Friese Property Project Review

Discussion was held regarding the township purchase of several acres of property along Brass Castle Creek adjacent to Meadow Breeze Park, which also includes an existing home. The Township Committee is proposing to turn the home over by ordinance to Warren County Habitat for Humanity in order to assist the township in satisfying its affordable housing obligations, and add the undeveloped property to Meadow Breeze Park. Affordable housing funds, as well as Township Open Space funds, are proposed for the acquisition. While the Commission supports the preservation of open space, it discussed that the township should have already fulfilled its affordable housing obligation and need not use open space funding to purchase this property. There were also concerns regarding the impact of parking on the site if developed, as well as the historic Morris Canal which runs through the site. The Chairman will attend the next Township Committee meeting and enter these comments into the public record, and seek clarification regarding the proposal as well.

OLD BUSINESS

Comments are being prepared for submission to Angela Clerico of Natural Systems Utilities regarding the Highlands Environmental Resource Inventory.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public were present

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:38 p.m.

A motion to adjourn was made by Cheryl Burket and seconded by Charlie Shields All were in favor.