

**Alloway Township Environmental Commission**  
**February 10, 2014 General Meeting**

**Attendees:** Joe Mahar, Craig Kane, Anne Sullivan, Autumn Angelus, Chris Gilbert, Warren Wieting, Frank Ponti and Mayor McKelvey

**Absent:** n/a

Meeting called to order at 7:35pm.

January's minutes were approved as read. (Motion by A.S., Seconded by C.K.)

**Discussion:**

- Joe began discussing film "Shored Up" about coastal communities and their relationship to the land. It was discussed that it will be available for viewing at Rutgers University.
- Frank discussed coyotes in Alloway and had photos of a den near his home.
- Frank discussed logging operations and the vicinity to the riparian zone and wetlands within Camp Roosevelt. Craig indicated that he could certify the wetland as a vernal pool if in fact it is.

*Old business:*

- Autumn initiated discussion about the community garden. Mayor Ed McKelvey stated that the property, formerly discussed as the location for the garden, is under review to be sold by the township. Mayor McKelvey then suggested the land behind the firehouse as an alternative. It was discussed that the deer would be an issue and that interest levels and budgets would have to be laid out. Mayor McKelvey suggested that the sewer participants would be an ideal mailing list for correspondence regarding the garden.
- The 2013 Annual Report was discussed with a few additions. A final draft is due to the township committee by March.
- Alloway's EC is included in the ANJEC website, which is quite an accomplishment, as we are one in three from Salem County.
- There was a brief review of the ATEC Charter. Joe will email it to any members that do not currently have a copy. There was a brief dialogue about solid waste input and SCIA.

*New business:*

- The topic for the Environmental Science Award was discussed. It was noted that 2013's topic was, "What are wetlands, and why are they important?". The 2014 topic was not chosen.
- The Planning Board had received a Site Plan from Ranch Hope which outlined:
  - Demolition of dorms, and cottage installment
  - R.H. did not file a variance as they should've, will be brought up at next PB meeting.
  - No increase in residence, only more space per person. A bit more impervious surface.

After some discussion, it was agreed that the lighting and demolition plans would need to be in greater detail than what is shown in the site plan; and the EC would suggest the following stipulations: Native landscaping for any new landscaping plans, and pervious concrete for any footprint beyond what's existing.

- Warren referenced the purchase of a pH meter. Some discussion ensued. Mayor McKelvey stated that it is out of the hands of any township committee and/or commission to state that anyone's water is safe. The majority of the commission agreed, closing the subject.
- Meeting adjourned at 9:37pm. (Motion by A.S., seconded by A.A.)