

**Elk Township Environmental Commission (ETEC)
August 10, 2011
Meeting Minutes**

Attendees:

ETEC Members: Donna Nicholson, Vic Thomas, Donna Weiss, Barry Cohen and Kevin Costello
Elk Twp Committee: N/A
Absent: Teal Jeffers and Mayor Barbaro
Public: N/A

I. July 2011 Meeting Minutes Approval

No minutes; informal meeting held with Vic Thomas, Barry Cohen and Kevin Costello. No quorum.

II. Public Discussion

N/A

III. New Business

- a. Southern Pine Beetle Discussion. – Discussed the infestation of the Southern Pine Beetle and potential impacts to Elk’s tree population. Currently the pine beetles are identified in Atlantic, Cumberland, Ocean and Cape May counties. They are moving into Salem County. The State is holding meetings, in conjunction with Land Dimensions seminars regarding the Pine Beetles. Kevin Costello will attend one of the August seminars and report back to the commission

IV. Old Business

- a. Targeting potential Funding, Grants, Etc.

Donna Weiss forwarded information regarding grants from DVRPC and a “To Do” list for the Conservation Element of the Master Plan. Vic Thomas looked into NJDEP website for grants.

- b. Township Master Plan:

ETEC to develop goal targets for future modification to the Master Plan. Kevin to provide copy of the Master Plan to the group, via email (text only). Kevin to reach out to the Township Committee, Planning/Zoning Board Chairman and the Township Planner (in one comprehensive email communication) regarding the process of modifying the Master Plan and how ETEC can get involved and have input.

Specific issues ETEC would like to be addressed in the Master Plan:

- Tree Ordinance and Protection
- Lot Size
- Water and Sewer
- Solar Farms
- Traffic impacts
- Development stormwater drainage issues.

Elk Township Environmental Commission
August 10, 2011
Meeting Minutes

c. Elephant Swamp Recreation Trail:

- Vic gave update on potential signs and had examples for the group.

V. Correspondence

- a. Block 10, Lot 26 – Ellis Mill Road, Estate of Bertha Fogg Major Subdivision Application.
Plan review and comments presented to P/Z.

- b. Block 7, Lot 1 – State Highway Route 77 and County Route 538, Catholic Community of the Holy Spirit Church. Subdivision Plan –
This was the first submittal of the Site Plan. It will be reviewed by Barry Cohen and Kevin Costello for development of ETEC comments/issues to be presented to P/Z.

- c. United Solar LLC- D1 Use variance.

The land owner is asserting that the use is conditionally permitted. Project would need to fulfill the Agricultural Buffer.

VI. Open Commission Discussion

Frank Goss resigned via email to Mayor Phil Barbaro and, therefore, ETEC, will need to fill this open seat.

VII. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm

Next ETEC meeting will be at 7:30pm, September 14, 2011