

VOORHEES TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES
May 13, 2014

The Chairperson called the meeting order. It was stated that this meeting is being held in compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act and has been duly published and noticed as required by law."

FLAG SALUTE:

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mr. Hale, Mrs. Atkinson, Mr. Rashatwar, Mrs. Brown, Mr. Garbowski, Mr. Gaffney

Absent: Mrs. Schwartz, Mr. Wu, Mr. Belson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mrs. Brown made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 8, 2014 meeting as distributed; seconded by Mr. Garbowski. Remaining present board members in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

Hale Trailer –Preliminary & Final Site Plan

Mr. Quay introduces himself as the Applicant's Engineer and Patricia Talcott as the Applicant's Attorney. Mr. Quay states that the site was the former Verizon facility. Hale Trailer Brake & Wheel which is located across the street has purchased this property. Their intent is to run a retail trailer parts store in the front of the facility and have the rest of facility as warehousing to support their existing operation. The previous owner had a Phase 1 site assessment conducted which was submitted. They also provided a copy of the "No Further Action" letter.

Mr. Quay states that they are adding and removing some paving on the site. Relocating the fence for sight improvements, landscaping the perimeter of the site and expanding the storm water basin.

There is discussion of the review letter prepared by Joe Giddings of CME and dated May 9, 2014. Mr. Hale asks if a Compensatory Tree Report was prepared? Mr. Quay states they will prepare one and forward the report to Mr. Giddings including a caliper tree table. Regarding the NJDEP Regulatory Requirements Mr. Quay states that on the plan it is depicted there are 3 dry wells that make up the disposal area of the existing septic system the manholes are also depicted. The applicant plans to keep the basin 50 feet away from those and will provide a letter from the Health Department. The applicant provided a "No further Action" letter from the NJDEP.

Mr. Hale discusses the impervious coverage of the site. He asks the applicant if they would consider creating pockets of rain gardens and a sand bottom in the basin.

Mr. Quay states they are proposing a K4K5 soil basin that will be maintained by raking.

Mrs. Brown is concerned that a large rain garden might need to be watered and prefers pockets of rain gardens. Mr. Quay states they will look into different options. He also states they will look into the line of site for plantings. The applicant will submit a revised plan which will include maintenance schedule for basin.

Mr. Hale opens meeting to the public. Seeing no public comments Mrs. Brown makes a motion to close public portion; seconded by Mr. Gaffney.

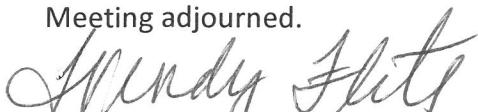
In regards to the CME review letter dated May 9, 2014, the applicant has/will comply with comments/recommendations. There is discussion of the recommendation letter to be forwarded to the Planning Board. Mrs. Brown makes a motion to forward the letter; seconded by Mr. Garbowski. (See attached)

COMMISSION UPDATES:

East-West Bicycle Connection Planning Study- Doug Rohmeyer of CME Associates states they have a prepared a planning study and final recommendation report. He gives a brief power point presentation summarizing the planning process. Funding for this study was provided by the DVRPC TCDI grant program which Voorhees Township received in 2012. The study focused on creating a linkage between the eastern and western portions of town. He states it also looked at various traffic calming elements along with some other improvements along Centennial Blvd. Along with CME the study was also performed with VCEF, Rutgers, Cross Country Connection VEC and the public. An existing conditions map was created which include 2000 data points and with that data they could determine the feasibility of installing multi use off road trails. It was determined that there are not many accidents along the bike pathway. Intent is to make it safe. Rhonda Urkowitz of Cross County Connection gives an explanation on how they collected data. He states there was an online survey opened to the public to get their input. Would like to include a linkage to the Train Station. Mr. Rohmeyer explains that they implemented the 4 E approach for the developing recommendations – Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, Engineering. They looked at key intersections and alternative routes. Sidewalk improvements. Suggests to complete sidewalk linkage and complete streets and provide multi-mode transportation. Mrs. Brown is concerned on who would be responsible for clearing off areas if snow covered. Mr. Rohmeyer states that Township should utilize this report as a support document to receive funding. It steers the Township to where they should prioritize these improvements. VEC recommends forwarding report to administration.

Mr. Hale opens meeting to the public. Seeing no public comments Mrs. Brown made a motion to close public portion; seconded by Mr. Rashatwar.

Meeting adjourned.


Wendy Flite, VEC Secretary