

**Minutes of the Environmental Commission
City of Cape May
April 22, 2014**

Attending Members: Evelyn Lovitz, Heather Bruno, Bea Pessagno, Terry Swain, Linda Steenrod, John Bilotta

Absent: Rachel Palermo, Jessie Weeks

After the pledge to the flag, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Items discussed:

1. The issue was raised about our current meeting time and the need to have adequate time to respond to current issues. Therefore, it was suggested that we schedule special meetings throughout the month as needed to comment on issues in a timely manner.
2. To receive the information we need to review, Terry suggested that we be notified via email, similar to other boards and commissions.
3. We discussed having members make a list of any potential volunteers that would be interested in serving on the commission.
4. The question was raised about what is our current mission statement. Please see link to our city website <http://www.capemaycity.com/Cit-e-Access/webpage.cfm?TID=103&TPID=10696> . It was further suggested that as commission members we each read this mission statement and come to our next meeting ready to discuss what it means to each of us and what our future goals are for the commission.
5. The question was also raised about our procedure for reviewing site plans that we receive, please see the link to the ANJEC review form that we have and continue to follow for site plan review <http://www.anjec.org/pdfs/SitePlanReview10.pdf>
6. Evelyn presented an interesting article regarding decreasing environmental technology costs and the economy, please see link to read article <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/18/opinion/krugman-salvation-gets-cheap.html? r=0>

7. We received a letter from Edie Schuhl, Chair of Cape May Point Environmental Commission requesting our participation in organizing a workshop to learn about rain gardens and rain barrels. Zach Nickerson, the Watershed Ambassador for Cape May County, will be giving the informational talk. As a commission we voted and all agreed on working with CMP on this workshop. Evelyn will contact Edie for further information. Also, Terry Swain has generously donated two rain barrels to the workshop.
8. Linda shared an idea to get the Environmental Commission active in our local school, by having the students help develop an earth friendly calendar that the kids would draw pictures for each month on ways to conserve and/or facts about recycling. Heather will present the idea at the next parent meeting at Cape May Elementary School.
9. Heather shared another idea that she saw on a recent trip to Washington DC. The city's trash cans have interesting facts about recycling. She suggested having a contest with our local schools and have students to come up with recycling facts for our city's trash cans. Please see picture



It says..."You can run a TV for three hours with the energy saved by recycling one aluminum can"

Next Meeting, Tuesday, May 27th at 10:30.

**Thank you,
Heather Bruno, Environmental Commission Secretary**