

**Environmental Commission
City of Cape May
643 Washington Street
Cape May, NJ 08204**

Minutes of Meeting – August 10, 2010

Attending:	Charlotte Todd	Ray Maher
	Rachel Palermo	John Bilotta
	Sandy Maloney	Jessie Weeks
	Heather Bruno	Sue Laudeman

Pledge of allegiance and approval of minutes as written, approved by Jessie Weeks and seconded by Ray Maher. All in favor.

Old & New Business

1. An apology to Gail for the misspelling of her last name in item #11 of last month's meeting notes.
2. Heather Bruno and Sue Laudeman were sworn in by Diane Weldon.
3. Convention Hall – green features are important. At the July 27 Convention Hall meeting, Charlotte went over grant opportunities available. She recommended using city grants firm Triad Associates, to look at all grant opportunities for Convention Hall.
4. John Bilotta has been appointed to the Convention Hall committee. John reported that \$10.5 million is the budget. Geo-thermal is still on the table for discussion. The architect will be coming back with ideas for the next meeting.
5. The Planning Board's procedural activities on major projects for ocean front properties used to need an EIS before approval. This process seems to have slipped away – requests are being directed to DEP for approval. It appears that the EIS is an ordinance that can be waived.
6. Vance's Bar parcel plus 2 houses on St. John's Street – The City is looking to purchase this property. There will be no liability of clean-up to the City if it is acquired. The entire site costs \$2.9 million. \$1.5 million will be coming from the City Open Space fund; the other \$1.4 portion would come from Green Acres funds. Application has been submitted to Green Acres. City Council must accept application to purchase. The clean-up is being done by PSE&G.
7. Water's Edge Complex – they are in the process of applying for CAFRA status.
8. Review minor sub-division on Lafayette St. Homeowner applying to add another house. The application is currently in the hands of the DEP. We had previously supplied a vegetation list for project.
9. The Environmental Education Cape Atlantic Conservation District – www.capeatlantic.org – will be offering the New Jersey Conservation Poster contest. The New Jersey Conservation Poster Contest is open to all students in grades 2-12. Contestants compete in their own age group. Local Soil Conservation District prizes are also awarded! Heather will look at this.

10. Reviewed letter from Barbara Skimmer, sent to the Environmental Commission, regarding noise issues and wildlife problems. Charlotte and Sandy will get together and compose letter to send to Barbara.
11. Charlotte planning to attend the Tourism Committee meeting on Wednesday, August 11, 2010 and present "Annapolis going Green."
12. The Nature Center of Cape May is buying "Green" products, (eq. utensils, and cups). They can be disposed of in the compost pile. The break down within 1 month.
13. John Bilotta gave brief discussion on the book "Hot, Flat and Crowded". Conservation is very important. Hot -- generated by the pollution in the environment, Flat -- countries promoting carbon based fuels, and Crowded -- population is increasing. We need to be careful how we move forward with our dependencies on foreign oils.
14. Brainstorming session -- Rachel suggested we take a visit to the De-Sal plant to review how process works and see the Photovoltaic system. Heather recommended the City use "Compost Tea" in their garden areas. The Nature Center might be a source of supply. Promote Green Transportation on the Island -- suggesting giving perks to people who park their cars and ride bikes around the town.

Important Dates

Next Environmental Meeting -- September 14, 2010 -10:30 City Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Maloney, Secretary