



Verona Environmental Commission

600 Bloomfield Avenue
Verona, New Jersey 07044

**VEC Public Meeting: April 9 - 2014, 7:30 pm at the Firemen's Room, 2nd Floor,
Verona Community Center. Adjourned at 9:30 pm**

Members present: Gerard Shimonaski, Gloria Machnowski, James Loudon, Virginia Citrano, Anthony Saltalamacchia, Jessica Pearson, Larry Lonergan, Julia Capuano and Council Liaison Kevin Ryan.

Guest: Chris Stark

Minutes

I. Members approved March 19th, 2014 minutes.

II. The VEC submitted the Peckman Woods Project to ANJEC applying to an Open Space Grant. from Gloria and Jim are the project contact members. Martin submitted letter of endorsement. We'll know if the VEC is selected by April 24. The VEC cleanup, is April 26 in the woods behind F. N. Brown School. The commission is inviting volunteers. BOE will deliver mulch, DPW will deliver tools and supplies. Jim printed posters that members will post around town.

III. Recycling video with VHS students at the Recycling Center will take place as soon as 4 students confirm participation. Julia will contact Lucas about it.

IV. The commission informed Kevin that our current recycling ordinance is not in compliance with state and county requirements:

http://www.nj.gov/dep/dshw/recycling/whatsnew/model_waste_ordinance.pdf

This is our current ordinance:

<http://ecode360.com/12271156?highlight=recyclables,recyclable,recycling,recycled#12271156>

Also, Verona does not have a certified recycling coordinator and needs one to fill out the annual tonnage report. Kevin will address this at the upcoming meeting.

The commission proposed strategies to increase recycling in homes, schools and businesses (including not mandated materials such as food waste and clothing). The members agree on working on a proposal for the services expected from new recycling vendor.

V. Members proposed: Anti-Idling Resolution (air pollution is the current single biggest environmental health risk). Sustainable Jersey recommends this model:

<http://cleanwateraction.org/files/publications/nj/noidlingresolutionmuni.pdf>

VI. Verona Green Team: the resolution was adopted and the first green team meeting will take place soon.

VII. VEC suggested Green Building Policy-Construction Checklist and Larry mentioned that he will advocate for its implementation.

VIII. The VEC has now a current Web site, new Twitter and Facebook accounts.

IX. Public Participation: Chris Stark will help at the cleanup event.