

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YORK
YORK TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE
11560 Stony Creek Rd., Milan, MI 48160**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
June 2, 2009**

Call to order -7:03 p.m.

Roll Call of Committee Members Present: Anna Lettang-Visioni, Joan Black, Tiziano Marovino, Bill Feight, Willow Newman, Aimee Kay, Jeff Morris

Absent: Larry Walton, Jean Brown, Ron Yahr, Ted Rotary

Others Present: Karen Rooker

Short Public Comments: *(three minutes or less)*

Karen Rooker: Bringing her concern regarding yard waste burning in subdivisions in York Township. Thought yard waste pickup by Steven's would help reduce burning, but it hasn't. It has become more of a problem the last few years. She has had to run her A/C in order to clean the air in her home, neighbors who burn tend to let their burn pile smolder for days at a time feeding it regularly. She would like to see the burning ordinance for the Township adjusted to take into consideration how difficult it is to burn in neighborhood subdivisions without impacting the health of other neighbors.

Adoption of Regular Agenda: Jeff moves to accept, Bill seconds, all in favor.

Approval of Committee Minutes: Deferred until next month.

Correspondence: Karen Rooker regarding burning, Greening of Milan thank you letter, Other letter regarding burning, Frank Stukenborg re:?

Verbal Reports:

Chairperson: - Aimee Kay

Executive Director of River Raisin Watershed Council has been laid off.

York Township , Parks and Recreation Committee Representative:

Received approval from board for park maintenance funds.

Pending Business:

1. Yard Waste Burning discussion: 1 acre lot does not seem to be big enough for burning without negatively impacting neighbors. What we can do in our advisory capacity:
 - Create a comparative analysis with nearby Townships to look at their burning ordinances or other farming Townships to see if they have addressed subdivision burning. Suggested townships are Sumpter, Augusta, and Lodi. (Aimee volunteers)
 - Look at map of Township to consider any geographical implications. (Aimee)
 - Contact both Milan and Saline Fire Departments to get statistics and information regarding emergency calls made due to burn pile mismanagement. (Anna)
 - Aimee will send the York Township burn ordinance around by email for each member to have to look at as well as other information found in other ordinances addressing safety concerns regarding fire and smoke that may be pertinent.
 - Since this is a seasonal issue heading into possible drought season when burning can become an increasing safety concern, our goal will be to try to put something together at our next meeting in order to bring something to the Board at their July meeting.

2. Draft Bylaws discussion: Before our next meeting Aimee will take the 2 documents and put it into one. Everyone please read before next meeting.

New Business: none

Suggestions: Future Agenda, Members Comments:

- Jeff shares that Saline is offering water treatment 50 gallon plastic drums to use as rain barrels. DPW is giving them away free. Are we interested in doing anything with this? Great workshop idea, Jeff will get more info.
- Also Saline has done an Environmental Audit for their Township Office. This might be something that we could share with our Township office as an opportunity.
- Add to next month's agenda: Revisit water information that Ron Yahr brought to our attention.

Public Comments: (five minutes or less)

The next Regular meeting of the Charter Township of York Township Environmental Committee will be held Tuesday July 7, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Announcements:

Bill Feight: Revolutionary War Heros buried here in York on Judd Rd. to be celebrated on July 3rd. Held by VFW and American Legion.

Adjournment:

Jeff moves to adjourn, Joan seconds, all in favor.

Visit our Township's website: www.twp-york.org for additional information.