

WINSLOW TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
ANNUAL REPORT
2018

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEMBERS

Jenn Jennings, Chair

Harleigh Pino, Vice Chair

Robert Stimelski

John Holroyd, Planning Board Liaison

Rhonda Johnson

Clark Sprigman

Annamarie Capaldi

Lori Watson

Laurie Giebner (Alternate 1)

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Establishment and membership [Amended 20-16-1993 by Ordinance No. 0-2-93]

An Environmental Commission shall be established in the Township of Winslow which shall consist of seven (7) members and two (2) alternate members, all of whom shall be township residents and appointed by the Mayor, at least one(1) of which shall be a member of the Planning Board of the Township of Winslow. The Mayor shall designate one (1) of the member to serve as the Chairperson and presiding officer.

Appointments

The initial appointments shall be made by the Mayor within thirty (3) days of the effective date of this chapter. However, all subsequent appointments shall be made at the annual reorganization meeting or as soon thereafter as practicable.

Terms of office and vacancies

A. The terms of the member shall be as follows:

1. One (1) member shall serve for one (1) year from the date on his/her initial appointment
2. Two (2) members shall serve for two (2) years from the date of their initial appointment.
3. Two (2) members shall serve for three (3) years from the date of their initial appointment.
4. Thereafter, all members shall serve for three-year terms after the expiration of their original terms.

B. All members appointed after the adoption of this chapter shall serve an initial term only until December, 1976, or until their successor qualifies.

C. The above-mentioned scheme of one-, two- and three-year appointments shall begin on January 1, 1977, at which time the above-mentioned initially staggered terms shall commence.

D. A vacancy occurring on the Commission other than by expiration of a term shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment.

E. Commencing with the January 1993 meeting, two (2) additional members of the Commission shall be appointed. They shall serve for three-year terms. [Amended 2-16-1993 by Ordinance No. 0-2-93]

F. Commencing with the January 1993 meeting, two (2) alternate members shall be appointed. They shall be designated as 'Alternate Number 1' and 'Alternate Number 2.' The terms of the alternate members shall be for two (2) years, except that the terms of the alternate members first appointed, shall be two (2) years for Alternate Number 1 and one (1) year for Alternate Number 2, so that the term of not more than one (1) alternate member shall expire in any one (1) year. [Amended 2-16-1993 by ordinance No. 0-2-93]

Powers and duties [Amended 5-17-1994 by Ordinance No. 0-12-94]

An Environmental Commission organized under this chapter shall have the power to conduct research into the use and possible use of the open land areas of the municipality and may coordinate the activities of unofficial bodies organized for similar purposes and may advertise, prepare, print and distribute books, maps, charts, plans and pamphlets which in its judgment it deems necessary for its purposes. It shall keep an index of all open areas, publicly or privately owned, including open marshlands, swamps and other wetlands, in order to obtain information on the proper use of such areas, and may from time to time recommend to the Planning Board, or, if none, to the Mayor and Township Committee of the municipality, plans and programs for inclusion in a Municipal Master Plan and for the development and use of such areas. Within the Pinelands Area, all applications for development approval shall be referred to the Environmental Commission for review and comment.

Acquisition of property

The Environmental Commission may, subject to the approval of the Mayor and Township Committee, acquire property, both real and personal, in the name of the municipality, by gift, purchase, grant, bequest, devise or lease, for any of its purposes, and shall administer the same for such purposes, subject to the terms of the conveyance or gift. Such an acquisition may be to acquire the fee or any lesser interest, development right, easement (including conservation easement), covenant or other contractual right (including a conveyance on conditions or with limitations or reversions) as may be necessary to acquire, maintain, improve, protect, limit the future use of or otherwise conserve and properly utilize open spaces and other land and water areas in the municipality.

Records and reporting

The Environmental Commission shall keep records of its meetings and activities and shall make an annual report to the mayor and Township Committee of the municipality.

Appropriations for expenses

The Mayor and Township Committee may appropriate funds for the expenses incurred by the Environmental Commission. The Commission may appoint such clerks and other employees as it may from time to time require and as shall be within the limits of funds appropriated to it.

Studies and recommendations

The Environmental Commission shall have the power to study and make recommendations concerning open space preservation, water resources management, air pollution control, solid waste management, noise control, soil and landscape protection, environmental appearance, marine resources and protection of flora and fauna.

Members

The current membership of the Environmental Commission consists of citizens who have expertise in many fields, including sustainability, grant writing, federal environmental law/policy, Pinelands protection, teaching and knowledge of local laws and municipal activities.

Activities and accomplishments

The Environmental Commission held a total of 10 regular meetings during 2018, meeting once a month except for July and September due to conflicts with federal holidays. Minutes documenting the activities of each regular meeting were recorded and are available upon request. Principal activities for the year were as follows.

- Received 1,000 trees from the NJ DEP's Tree Recovery Program which were distributed to the community through our Green Fair and local schools and community groups.
- Monitored reports of bald eagle and peregrine falcon activity and nesting behavior in the Township. Winslow had one nesting pair of bald eagles observed in Blue Anchor.
- Held our fifth annual Green Fair in Winslow Township on April 21st, 2018. It was attended by approximately 500 people. In addition to having a paper shredding (totaling four tons), electronics recycling and prescription drug collection program, we had 15 vendors promoting their green and sustainability programs.
- Supported the adoption of sustainable smart growth land-use policies by the Township, including the incorporation of green design principles in municipal buildings, and natural resource protection of land in the Township.
- Continued collaboration with the Great Egg Harbor River Council and Watershed Association on an Impervious Cover Assessment and Green Infrastructure Feasibility Study for the Township, which resulted in identifying 2 potential projects, 9 of which were within the Pinelands Regional Growth Area.
- Continued work on securing the final locations and installation of interpretive signs highlighting the designation of the Winslow segments of the Great Egg Harbor River into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System in 1992.

- Collaborated with the Winslow Township Green Team on a number of initiatives. The Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Administrator and representatives from various municipal departments are members of the Green Team.
- Helped Winslow maintain Silver level certification under the Sustainable Jersey program by continuing its commitment to strive for more sustainable practices. The Environmental Commission continues to work on many of the actions, including developing a program to promote local farms and farm stands, having a member of our Commission that completed ANJEC's Environmental Commissioner Training Program, drafting a Sustainable Land Use Plan, creating an e-waste program and beginning to develop a community garden.
- Updated and enhanced the Environmental Commission's web page which is listed under Winslow Township's main website
- Reviewed site plans for proposed residential and commercial development within the Town
- Provided input to appropriate Town officials regarding environmental issues affecting the Town

