

Manchester Township Environmental Commission
Annual Report for 2016

MEMBERS

Michael DiGiore – Chairperson

Bill Foor – Vice Chairperson

William Cook Member

Peggy Middaugh Member

Marianne Borthwick – Member & Commission Secretary

MEETINGS

The Manchester Township Environmental Commission (EC) met four times in 2016: January 21, April 21, July 21 and October 20. The January meeting was a Regular and Organization Meeting. At that meeting, the new members, William Cooke and Bill Foor were sworn in and Mr. Foor was elected the EC Vice Chairperson.

EC Activities

The EC reviewed the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) Flood Guidelines, the Route 37 Economic Corridor Development Report, the Heritage Minerals Redevelopment Proposal, the proposal to amend the New Jersey State Plan Impervious Surface requirements, and a Zoning Board of Adjustment Application regarding a proposed residential development on Washington Avenue.

The EC also discussed the need to update the Manchester Township Environmental Resource Inventory, provided input to the Township Administrator regarding the Canada Geese control problem at Township lakes and continued to participate in the Barnegat Bay National Estuary Program.

In April, Chairperson DiGiore met with Mayor Palmer to discuss the role of the EC. At this meeting Chairperson DiGiore explained that the EC is comprised of extremely knowledgeable, qualified individuals and is a valuable resource for the Township. Mayor Palmer and Chairperson DiGiore also discussed Manchester Ordinance Chapter 16, Article 1, which among other things, states that every

application for development within the Pinelands Area submitted to the Planning Board shall be referred to the EC for review. The need for additional EC members was also discussed.

Earth Day

The EC once again partnered with Manchester Shop Rite and the Township Elementary Schools on the Earth Day project whereby Shop Rite donates brown paper bags for art class students to decorate with environmentally-themed drawings. These bags are then distributed to customers.