

Harding Township Civic Association

THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS

SUMMER 2011

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Harding Township Municipal Offices Summer Hours Schedule: Please note that, effective June 27th through September 2nd, the Harding Township Municipal Offices will be open 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Monday through Thursday and 8:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. on Friday.

The Township offices have new phone extensions:

Town Hall Main Phone Number Remains: 973-267-8000

Department	Last Name	First Name	Ext.
Administration	McKane	Gail	1917
Clerk/Registrar	Macchia	Amanda	1951
Construction	Balady	Mary Ellen	1964
Construction	Doherty	Janet	1976
Finance	Gupta	Debbie	1966
Finance	Ho	Leonard	1980
Health	Annibal	Garry	1924
Health	Russomano	Pat	1974
Health	Sharp	Lisa	1968
Health	Swenson	Steven	1977
IT / GIS	Allyn	Chris	1981
Planning Board	Phillips	Cindy	1947
Police	Gaffney	Kevin	1912
Police	Nunn	Dan	1913
Police	Sherlock	Susan	1985
Tax - Assessor	Demeter	Mary	1969
Tax - Assessor	McKeon	Joseph	1949
Tax - Collector	Silber	Kathy	1967
Zoning	Zaborsky	Karen	1921

Police Non-Emergency Remains: 973-455-0500

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Main Fax Remains: 973-267-6221

Finance Department has a New Fax: 973-349-1963

At the Harding Township Memorial Day Ceremony held May 30, the winners of the essay contest were announced. These were

Jenna Gielchinsky- Grade 2

Samantha Hutchinson- Grade 4

Burke Giordano- Grade 6

Samantha Reina- Grade 8

Rather than naming an individual to "Citizen of the Year", Barbara Brennan, president of the civic association acknowledged "all of the people who have given of their time, past and present". Brennan mentioned many organizations whose members collectively contribute to Harding and make it a special place. She mentioned elected officials in both the Township Committee and school board. Although these positions are elected, they are nonetheless, volunteer positions. Brennan stated "Members of these two groups spend numerous hours every month going to their own meetings as well as being members and liaisons to other committees and commissions. There are no big paychecks or pensions, they do it to serve their township." She then recognized those who sit on the boards and commissions in the township: the Planning Board, Open Space, Board of Adjustment, Environmental Commission, Historic Preservation, Shade Tree, Wildlife Committee, Parks Committee, Cell Tower Advisory, and Downtown Development Committee. Also mentioned were many of the independent organizations that provide services that improved and enhance the quality of the town. The Harding Township Library, Harding Land Trust, Bridle Path Association, Senior Citizens Club, Educational Foundation, Vision Council, Recreation Association, Historical Society, and Glen Alpin Conservancy, Civic Association, Alliance Against Substance Abuse, and Friends of Trees. She added, "Finally there are a couple more very important and vital organizations that I would like to recognize, the New Vernon and Green Village Fire Departments and their First Aid Squads. In addition to the essential and excellent services they provide, what makes these organizations extraordinary is that they do not take any tax dollars. The volunteers staff the fire department and first aid squads, continue their training and education, and in their spare time."

BICYCLING News: SHARE THE ROAD AND THE RESPONSIBILITY The Morris Area Freewheelers organization has provided the following:

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There is no better indicator that spring has returned to Harding Township than the return of bicyclists who enjoy the incredible beauty found here. Most cyclists ride for recreation while a smaller number do so to commute. Either way, the Township's location, varied terrain and natural beauty make it a Mecca for those who ride. Roads can be safely shared by bikes and cars, provided everyone knows and follows the rules and shares the responsibility. Here are a few safety tips:

Cyclists Responsibility

Keep to the right and always travel with traffic.

Obey all traffic signals.

Ride single file when traffic is present and never more than two abreast.

Use a mirror and monitor traffic behind you. Alert other riders in your group of the presence of approaching vehicles.

Be visible! Wear brightly colored and reflective clothing and equip your bike with front and rear lights if riding after dark.

Join a club like the Morris Area Freewheelers (mafww.org). You'll learn how to be a safer cyclist and group riding is simply more fun!

Motorists Responsibility

Always yield to bikes and pedestrians – it's the law!

Make your presence known – use your headlights, even during the daytime when bikes or pedestrians are present; never do anything that will startle a rider.

Be patient. Slow down. A few seconds can save a life or serious injury.

Pass cyclists with at least 3 feet to spare. Pass only on a straight stretch of road, never on a curve.

THE HARDING TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT wants to take this opportunity to thank township citizens for their input on our recent request for information on people going door to door soliciting driveway seal coating. Two individuals were charged for soliciting in the township without a permit. One subject was from West Palm Beach Fla staying in Lakewood NJ and coming into Harding Twp to operate a non registered business and solicit our residents for work. The second individual was from Texas and was staying at various hotels conducting the same type of activity. Both subjects were identified and charged by Detective Lieutenant Dan Nunn.

The Harding Township Police along with the Morris County Prosecutors Office are investigating an incident that occurred on Jenks Road near Sand Spring Road. The incident was reported on the morning of June 22nd. Unknown person(s) ignited several homemade Molotov cocktail type flammable devices in the roadway. This had the potential to cause injury and or damage to persons and or property. If anyone has information of who may be involved or observed anything of a suspicious nature in the area from the evening of Tuesday June 21st to

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the morning of Wednesday June 22nd please contact Lt. Nunn of the Harding Township Police at 973-455-0500 or the Morris County Prosecutors Office at 973-285-6200 or Morris County Crime Stoppers at 973-COP-CALL.

HARDING BOARD OF HEALTH

Guidelines for Proper Disposal of Household Medication

Do not keep excess or expired medication around the house. Don't dispose of medication down the drain or toilet; wastewater treatment facilities are not designed to remove pharmaceutical compounds and they may end up in your local waterways and may eventually be found in drinking water.

Mix liquid medicine with undesirable substances like coffee grinds, cat litter or dirt. Crush pills or dilute with water, then add coffee grinds, cat litter or dirt. Place in an opaque container like a yogurt container and secure the lid. Hide the container in the trash. Do not recycle.

An alternative route is to visit Madison Pharmacy at 66 Main Street, a designated medication disposal site. They will accept all medications except liquids or controlled substances.

THE KEMMERER LIBRARY,

Library Summer Hours: During July and August, the Kemmerer Library will be open 10 am to 5 pm Monday to Friday, 10 am to 2 pm on Saturday, closed on Sunday.

Tech Open House: Tuesday, July 12th, at 12:45 p.m. While your children participate in the summer reading club, use the time to learn how to use the library's fabulous database, NoveList, to develop a personalized summer reading list for yourself!

Save the Date: The Friends of the Kemmerer Library will sponsor a Holiday House Tour on Thursday, December 8, a celebration of beautiful local holiday decorating. Event begins with brunch from 9-11 am at SpringBrook Country Club of Morristown, followed by the tour from 11-3. For more information or to add your home to the tour, call 973-326-9396 or 973-539-0149.

Summer Reading Club: Sign up children between age 3 and fifth grade for the library's fun, full program this summer; children win prizes to encourage reading anything they enjoy and can also attend the following complementary programs from June 20th to August 26th:

Toddler Time: Tuesdays at 10:30 am for children ages 2 and 3. Stories, songs and crafts.

Kindergarten Story Time: Tuesdays at 12:30 pm for children entering kindergarten in the fall. Kids bring lunch and listen to stories.

Book Buddies: Thursdays at 10:30 am for children entering first to third grade this fall. Teen volunteers and other special visitors will listen to the children read stories of their choice from the summer reading list.

Lunch Bunch: Thursdays at 12:30 pm for children entering fourth and fifth grade this fall. Children bring lunch and talk about books on the summer reading list or other books they like.

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Children must participate in the summer reading club to join this group. By reading a certain number of pages each week, children can enter a raffle to win fun prizes.

Crafternoons: Children of all ages drop in and make a craft Wednesdays from 1 to 2:30 pm.

Pajama Story Time: Thursday, July 14th, and Thursday, August 25th, at 6 pm, for children ages 2 and older. Come dressed in your pajamas and listen to bedtime stories. Leave a stuffed toy at the library overnight and see pictures of what it did at its library sleepover when you pick it up next day.

Bridge, Anyone? If you are interested in playing bridge or learning how to play this great card game at the library, please contact us at 973-267-2665 to sign up. We need a minimum of eight students/players to start a program this summer.

Wanted: Volunteer webmaster (or -mistress!) for the library's web site. Work can be done from home, takes about 3 hours a week. If you can surf the 'net and send email, we can teach you how to do this! A good opportunity for someone who wants to do community service that will look good on a resume.

Adult Yoga: Patricia Kennelly's yoga class for all ages is on hiatus until September, when we will resume. If you are interested but cannot get to the library at yoga's current time slot, Thursdays at 4:30 pm, contact us with your preferred times.

Senior Yoga: No senior yoga for next seven weeks until the full program (mat work at 10:45, chair work at 11:30) resumes Monday, August 22nd.

SOCCER REGISTRATION FOR FALL 2011 IS NOW OPEN.

Program is for Harding residents with children in Pre-K (4 yrs. old on or before 9/1/2011), to 2nd Grade. Hours are pre-K: Saturdays from 9-10 am; 1st/2nd: 10-11am and K: 11-noon; 8 consecutive weeks beginning on 9/17/11. Students who will be entering 2nd grade in September may elect to be in this program OR enroll in the "Travel-style" Recreation program run by Madison. Any questions/comments may be sent to Melissa Simon; <mejawesi@yahoo.com> To register, go to <madisonhardingsoccer.org> and click on the "Recreation" tab and then select "Harding K-2".

HARDING ALLIANCE AGAINST SUBSTANCE ABUSE:

Our mission is to provide education and resources to promote healthy decision-making and to avoid substance abuse and risky behaviors. Harding Alliance members are concerned citizens, police, and health and school professionals. Have a safe and healthy summer. Please come to the fall meeting on **Sept. 21, at 8:30 AM** in the Guidance Office of Harding Township School. Register for updates to our new [website](https://sites.google.com/site/hardingalliance/) at <https://sites.google.com/site/hardingalliance/> and our blog at <http://hardingalliance.blogspot.com/>. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Judy Malloy, Chairperson, at judymotown@gmail.com.

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TOWNSHIP NEWS:

Township Committee Meeting – May 18, 2011, All committee persons were present.

Capital budget, totaling \$450K was presented and approved. Capital expenditures are those items which have a usable life of at least five years. Short lived items are expensed in the year purchased. Not included in the budget was \$100K for repair of the tennis courts. The TC is still trying to judge if there is enough demand from residents to justify the cost.

An expenditure of \$50K to repair the township's only sewage pumping station was approved. The expenditure is not an item on the municipal budget as it is paid for by fees from the properties that use the sewage system.

Responsibility for Public Assistance Program was transferred to Morris County from Harding due to the retirement of Anne Morgan who was enthusiastically thanked for her management of and dedicated service to the program.

Tax Appeal settlement was approved on the Lieberman residence at 685 Spring Valley Road. Revenue loss to Harding will be about \$5200 per annum.

The head of the Harding's Department of Public Works made a presentation on the department's Road Maintenance program. The DPW maintains 30 miles of roads, 461 catch basins, 243 cross over pipes, 500 street signs, and is responsible for guard rails, roadside mowing, culverts and ditches. Priorities are determined after surveying the roads every spring and then rating the conditions using the Asphalt Institute's Pavement Rating System. For 2011, the preliminary plan is to repair parts of the following roads: Bailey's Mill, Kitchell, Blackwell, Van Beuren, Spencer, Douglas, Shalebrook, Meyersville, Featherbed, Peachcroft, Lindsley and White Deer. The general response from both the TC and the public to the presentation and the work being done to maintain roads was positive.

Harding Downtown Redevelopment Steering Committee made a second extensive report on their activities and recommendation. "Downtown" New Vernon is a 14 property area from the NV Fire house to the traffic light where, Lees Hill, Village, Blue Mill and Glen Alpin Roads meet.

Three subcommittees examined an area each based on the results of survey of the property and business owners in the area. The goal is to attempt to make the area more vibrant and business friendly. The first sub-committee came up with a more stream lined protocol for small businesses to get approval for their plans. The solution is

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to assign each inquirer a single point of contact to help. The second group focused on design issues such signage, lighting, pathways, traffic flow. Recommendations were made in each of these areas. The third subcommittee contacted County and independent business and economic development authorities to investigate what assistance could be offered. Hopefully the presentation of the Committee will be posted on the Township's website.

In local news of interest from the NJ Republican primary election held June 7, incumbents *Lou Lanzerotti and Regina Egea* won the right to run in the fall general election for Township committee.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT, no reporter coverage, reporter needed

Planning Board May 23, 2011; All present.

Operational and Land Use Topics

The Board discussed miscellaneous operational and land use topics. A number of topics were mentioned for future consideration, including a lighting ordinance, the county build out analysis, Route 202 commercial zone, cell tower placement, walking paths, the New Vernon downtown district, environmentally constrained lots, historic structures, riparian zones, height limitations on barns, and possible state rules on placement of solar panels, turbines, etc.

Mr. Newlin asked if additional training for Board members was appropriate. He also emphasized the need for members who are liaisons with other boards or committees to take the lead driving discussion about hot topics. Plan revisions by applicants continue to be a problem where submission deadlines for Board meetings are not met. The Board is in favor of being strict, although it was suggested that the Chair should be able to make exceptions where appropriate.

A discussion then took place regarding a property on Van Buren Road which is largely in Morris Township, but where a small corner of the lot extends into Harding. There is a proposal to subdivide the lot into smaller lots of 0.8 acres which some fear will negatively impact the distinctive character that Van Buren now enjoys from end to end. The Board discussed negative impact to development such as significant tree removal to accommodate the required septic fields and the management of stormwater. It was suggested that residents of the area continue to participate in the process, and the

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Board look at the proposal from a technical standpoint and have suggestions to present to the Morris Township Planning Board such as the use of tree conservation screens. This discussion raised the issue of whether the Board needed a member to get involved in cross border zoning issues, and Mr. Platt volunteered to take this on.

Another potential such issue with Chatham Township was then discussed. Chatham Township appears to be embracing the Farm Preservation Act by allowing landowners to convert properties into commercial farms and related business such as landscaping services. There is a danger that historic properties could be negatively impacted, or that quasi-commercial operations could harm rural character. The proximity of Chatham Township to Harding makes this an issue for Harding, and Mr. Platt agreed to look into it.

Mr. Newlin then suggested that a presentation should be made to the Township Committee regarding the Board's build-out analysis to "put a bow on the project." Census data should be included as well the nitrate solution analysis and the county waste water analysis. The presentation should be a high level summary of what the findings show.

Additional topics for future discussion included "grand entrances," follow up to see if application approval conditions have been met, property management (where owners are not taking care of their property), enforcing completion deadlines, putting objects out for sale, parking boats in driveways, and use of PODS (these final few perhaps falling under a "good neighbor policy"). It was suggested that people should look around to determine whether any of these items present significant problems that should be officially addressed.

BOARD OF EDUCATION News. New school Superintendent Alex Anemone was appointed by the school board, announced at a meeting June 6. His salary is \$135,000. He was principal of Glenfield Middle School, Montclair, and was selected from an original pool of 34 candidates. He lives in West Caldwell, has 4 children, and has been assistant principal as well as teaching social studies at Clifton HS. Harding School has about 350 students.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION: MARCH, 2011

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CONSTRUCTION APPLICATION: **Michael Cammarata (Owner) 35 Pleasantville Road**, Block 17, Lot 20, Historic District: Pleasantville – contributing. Demolition of existing principal residence – The owners appeared for a second time.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT APPLICATIONS:

HPC Referral #HPC-3-3-11-08, Owner: Walt Morris, 205 Lees Hill Road, Block 51, Lot 18 (Historic District: Logansville – Contributing Structure (individual). Building without permit – Without obtaining a permit, the owner renovated the main house with painted cedar clapboard over the course of last year and has also constructed a new garage which sits behind the existing small vintage garage. The owner will now have to seek a variance from the Township. The Commission reviewed the incomplete structure to determine what the finished garage will look like and then suggested that cedar clapboard in the same color and texture of the house be used as well as smaller windows, perhaps one on each side. The HPC requests copies of all elevations of proposed garage to review and confirm design consistency with the existing garage and house. Elevations shall include siding, corner board, rake and fascia material and exposure, roofing material, window manufacturer and specification, garage door design and material. Although the HPC assumes the color of the proposed garage will be consistent with the main house, the colors shall also be noted on the elevations.

HPC Referral #HPC-3-311-9, Owner: Anthony Giacone, 17 Fawn Hill Drive, Block 48, Lot 8.15 (Historic District: N/A) Construction of a swimming pool – The Commission has no comment because this is not a contributing property and does not affect the Streetscape.

HPC Referral #HPC-3-3-11-10, Owners: David and MaryBeth Lohuis, 4 Oxford Lane, Block 5, Lot 22 (Historic District: Silver Lake – non-contributing.) Construction of a detached garage – Owners wish to build a larger than 2-car garage in front of the principal structure. Members of the HPC stated that while the original house is well done, the proposed structure presents problems in terms of siting (the location encroaches on a 150 ft. setback), massing (the scale is too small and it looks inconsistent with the architecture of the house, both in size and design). D. Maselli suggested that a simpler roof line may be more consistent with the Streetscape of James Street, particularly with the similar barn structures across the road. The HPC agreed that the structure may be simplified by eliminating dormers and the reverse gambrel roof section facing James Street in order to simplify the roof line. Additionally, the HPC suggests substituting the glass on all four sides of the cupola with louvers or if

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the windows must remain, that they not be lighted. The HPC would appreciate being provided with a Landscape Plan indicating intentions for screening on the James Street side.

FOLLOW-UP ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN REVIEW

Owner: Joseph Tessi, 40 Lake Trail East, Block 41, Lot 20, Historic District: N/A – Individual Contributing Site) – Construction of a replacement house – A certification of Appropriateness for demolition has been issued. The Commission received a letter from the owners stating that they are willing to adopt many of the suggestions previously made for building the new structure. The HPC still has the following suggestions: 1) consider eliminating the window canopy roofs; 2) consider changing the window above the garage doors to a double hung of similar size with 4-lites over 1-lite for design consistency; 3) consider eliminating the transom windows in all locations to form a window and door alignment with all windows and doors.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION, May 9, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT: N. Platt, R. Clew, P. Saulnier, K. Meister, H. Symonds, J. Morgan, and D. Hinds. MEMBERS ABSENT J. Kovacs and W. Settle
REORGANIZATION ACTION

K. Meister welcomed two new members to the Commission: James Morgan and Richard Clew. He also stated that Ted Cotton had informed him that he intended to resign as a member of the EC; however, to date, this has not been confirmed in writing. David Dietz has resigned from the EC, but has requested to remain on the Planning Board, which the Township Committee approved. Peter Saulnier was named by the Township Committee as the EC liaison to the Planning Board.

LIAISON REPORTS

Planning Board - P. Saulnier, stated that the main issue before the Planning Board now is the subdivision of the Fawn Hill property, Spring Valley Rd. The owners presented a conforming plan at last month's Planning Board (PB) meeting. Therefore, there will need to be another site visit. The PB wants the EC to weigh in on the new subdivision plans regarding easements, bridle paths and general comments regarding the impact of the subdivisions on the environment. If approved, the 6-car garage and one dwelling in the courtyard will be taken down. The tree buffer on Spring Valley Road is a major concern. If the tree buffer on Spring Valley Road is made a conservation easement, any downed

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trees would have to be replaced. N. Platt stated that this is a very important point for the EC. In order to maintain the streetscape, the old growth forest (mostly white pines) should be maintained. A discussion followed regarding subdivision and lot size averaging. If the proposed plan is confirmed, the EC will comment on the tree buffer and a bridle path on the north side of the property, discourage a new road at the north of the property to protect old growth forest, and applaud the decision to save the old barn. Mr. Saulnier agreed to present a draft of the EC comments at the next EC meeting.

Deer Fencing and Ostentatious Gates to Properties

The PB will look to the EC for comments on deer fencing and on property entrances which are not in keeping with the rural character of Harding Twp. The EC will endeavor to obtain Ordinances from neighboring towns on the subject and take up the matter at its June meeting.

Board of Adjustment- A major subject is the Garage on the Lohuis Property, 4 Oxford Lane. Their plan is to use a smaller version of the Frelinghuysen design. As suggested, they have now excluded the cupola, but want to expand the upper dormers to provide storage in the upstairs. The owners will submit a new plan encompassing these changes. The EC hopes to ensure that the buffer of hardwood trees remains, so that the new building cannot be seen from the road. Mr. Symonds will present a draft of the EC comments on the case at the next meeting of the Commission.

PROJECTS:

Easement Stewardship - K. Meister reported on a meeting held on the subject on April 7 with representatives of the Harding Land Trust and HOST. The minutes of that meeting provide a blueprint for the Easement Stewardship of the township, with the first action step being the establishment of a data base on existing easements. The consensus at the meeting was that professional help should be contracted to carry out this task, and that K. Meister and T. Bologna would collaborate to identify such help and solicit proposals.

Accordingly, K. Meister and T. Bologna met on May 9 with Harriet Honigfeld, who had been recommended as a well-qualified land use consultant and who had done work for the township in this area. She will submit a proposal for the establishment and maintenance of an easement data base. If the proposal is acceptable, K. Meister will request permission from the Township Committee to engage her and do so without waiting for the next EC meeting. With regard to monitoring the easements, the

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consensus of the April 7 meeting was that, because of their number, it will not be possible to inspect all the easements regularly. Nevertheless, critical easements should be inspected annually, and it must be determined whether these inspections should be carried out by professionals or by volunteers. A final decision on this subject can be made once the data base on the easements is established.

Second Volunteer Clean-up Day - R. Clew reported that the May 9th clean-up day was not well attended, due to bad weather, lack of advertising and the school break for Easter. A decision was made though, to organize a clean-up day for the fall, namely on October 1, with a rain date of October 8. The Commission will adopt the following measures to assure better attendance: Running articles in the local press and in the Thumbnail, invitations to members of the various committees of the township, getting the collaboration of the Harding Elementary School and involvement of local youth groups such as the boy scouts and the youth groups of the churches.

K. Meister stated the clean-up activity will serve the added purpose of highlighting some of the contributions to the community by the Environmental Commission. Mr. Clew will continue to coordinate this effort. EC members are encouraged to inform him of the areas most in need of clean-up.

Energy Efficiency Analysis - Street illumination - H. Symonds surveyed the number and location of light poles in the township, identifying those working and those not working, and came to the conclusion that the township is probably being over-billed for street lights. He will arrange to have JCP&L do an audit of which lights actually are working and which are not, and prepare an EC recommendation to the Township Committee that the lighting be shut off, except in key shopping areas. He believes the township can thus save as much as \$10,000 per year in electricity costs.

Installation of new HVAC equipment in the Municipal Building. The question was raised whether environmental considerations were heeded upon the installation of new HVAC equipment in the Municipal Building. N. Platt stated that some \$54,000 was spent last year on a new air conditioning system and boiler and that the new system, which is computer controlled, is proving to be much more efficient than the old system. The proper environmental considerations have been taken into account.

Lighting Ordinance - The Planning Board is looking to the EC for an updated lighting ordinance, to clarify the existing ordinance, adding new provisions such as the use of shielded light sources, and to make enforcing it easier. N. Platt reported that new applicants are already being asked to voluntarily honor the shielded light source

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requirement. James Morgan will head this project and a draft of the revised lighting ordinance will be presented at the next meeting of the EC.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION April 4, 2011 meeting highlights

Easement Stewardship – C. Allyn presented an Easement Stewardship Update, showing maps of Conservation Easements (124) and of Bridle Trail Easements (44). Also presented were a list outlining 106 Conservation and Bridle Trail Easements identified up to mid-2006 and a table listing 32 easements issued since then. Thus, between the charts and the lists, the total number of easements to be monitored would appear to be between 138 and 168. The records on easements in Harding Township consist of (1) Mapping showing the location of the easements based on GIS data, of (2) written Background Records including maps, deeds and resolutions, and (3) of Stewardship Records including inspection reports, photos and correspondence.

J. Kovacs stated that the old files on easements need to be reviewed to make sure they are complete and that this will be a huge job due to the volume of the records. K. Meister stated there will be a meeting on Easement Stewardship with the President and the Executive Director of the Harding Land Trust and the chairman of the Open Space Trust Committee this week. He suggested that J. Kovacs attend.

Discussion ensued on the need for inspection of the easements to assure compliance with the conditions of the easements. A key consideration was the establishment of baselines on the easements. D. Dietz stated that the applicant is responsible for supplying the original baseline information. C. Allyn stated it is very important to check that the party provided an accurate baseline. The question of prioritizing which properties to inspect was discussed, since not all parcels can be walked. Agreement was reached that size and sensitivity of the location of the easements should determine which parcels are inspected. In the interest of time, K. Meister stated he will work with J. Kovacs on developing a plan and report at the next meeting of the Commission. He feels this project cannot be dependent on volunteerism alone.

Bridle Path Association: M. Olsen requested that EC support a plan to have a bridle trail run through the Glatt property. The EC supports this plan.

Lighting Ordinance discussion W. Settle will coordinate the Commission's efforts in this matter. N. Platt stated the Planning Board is spearheading a review of the Ordinance managing usage of light. Mr. Platt has asked new applicants to agree voluntarily to utilize shielded light sources. So far, all four families who have come before the Planning Board have agreed. Mr. Platt suggested that the EC follow up with a letter to each family, reiterating the agreement they made. K. Meister obtained and read the existing lighting ordinance to the EC. L. Lanzerotti suggested that the EC adopt a policy of educating the public as to the lighting ordinance, emphasizing the need to be considerate toward neighbors.

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Shade Tree Preservation There was a strong consensus that there is a need for change in how native shrubs, sapling trees and historic trees are protected, especially along street frontages. The Shade Tree Advisory Committee, J. Kovacs, has drafted a letter asking the Planning Board for their support in working for a solution to correct inadequacies in the township's current Shade Tree ordinance. K. Meister agreed we must foster in the public knowledge of how important caring for our trees is to a healthy environment.

Civic Association News and Announcements

Civic Association: The **DEADLINE FOR THE next issue OF THE THUMBNAIL is September 2.** Current and past issues of Thumbnail, as well as the Directory are also on our Website: <http://www.hardingcivic.org>. Send questions or comments about Thumbnail to editor, **email address: hesnaj@verizon.net**, or the Harding Township Civic Association, PO Box 72, New Vernon, NJ 07976. The Civic Association website, www.hardingcivic.org, is updated frequently; we post events sent to our e-mail address: submissions@hardingcivic.org.

We continue to need more volunteers to cover and report on Township meeting for Thumbnail. Civic association reporters provide a perspective of the meeting not necessarily captured in the meeting minutes. If you have an interest in reporting on Open Space, Historic Preservation < board of Adjustment, or School Board, we need you! Email to BarbaraBrennan@prelude.com for more information.

TOWNSHIP RECYCLING

The Hours of operation are every Wednesday from 7AM. to noon (7– 9AM self service); and every other **Sat.: 9AM to noon. Jul 9, 23, Aug 6, 20, Sept. 3, 17.**

Commingled Recyclables: consists of all aluminum and tin cans, glass bottles, and only plastic bottles and containers with the Recycling symbol, and #1 or #2. Try to crush plastic bottle to conserve space. Please remember no plastic or paper bags. **Commingled Mixed Paper recycling;** consists of all paper, cardboard, newspaper, office paper, magazines, and books. Please put loose or shredded paper in paper bag. Please flatten all boxes or fill with other paper products. **Other accepted items;** Batteries; automotive (car) and household (rechargeable accepted); Automotive and light truck tires, (on or off rim) and Propane tanks (BBQ size only)

CLARIFICATION NOTE: regarding Computers, monitors, laptops and televisions. As of January 1, 2011, these items **cannot** be put into household trash. However, they **can** be brought to the Harding Twp DPW recycling center at the regular hours of operation. Tracy Toribio of Harding Twp DPW will answer your recycling questions 973 267 2448, Mon- Fri 8:30 am to 3 pm. **A Township-wide Fall Clean-up Day is scheduled for September 26, 2011.**

Harding Township Civic Association

THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS

SUMMER 2011

DATES TO REMEMBER, meetings as noted.

Environmental Commission (1 st Monday)	7:30 PM
Seniors (2 nd and 4 th Thursday)Chrst KingCh	11 AM
Planning Board (4 th Monday)	7:30 PM
Hist Preservtion Comm (1stThursday)	7:30 PM
Board of Health (2 nd Thursday)	7:30 PM
Board of Education (1st and 3rd Monday)	7:30 PM
Board of Adjustment (3 rd Thursday)	7:30 PM
Township Committee(3 rd Wed)	7:30 PM
Harding Open Space (2 nd Wed)	7:30 PM
Harding Twp Civic Association (2 nd Wed)	7:30 PM
Municipal Court- has merged with Madison NJ Court	