

The regular meeting of the Delaware Township Environmental Commission was held on the noted date, in the Delaware Township Municipal Building, 570 Rosemont Ringoes Road (County Route 604), Sergeantsville, New Jersey. Chair Szwed opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

STATEMENT

Vice Chair Katz read a statement noting that the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been satisfied. Notice of this meeting was properly transmitted to the Hunterdon County Democrat, Trenton Times, and Star Ledger, posted on the Delaware Township bulletin board, posted on the Township website, and on file at Town Hall, all on January 17, 2019.

Roll Call

Present: Regular Members: John Kafarski, Kathy Katz, Kathy Klink, ~~Roger Locandro~~,
Susan Lockwood, ~~Rich Mongelli~~, Tony Szwed
Alternates: Donna Dahringer, Alternate I, Mary Anne Royal, Alternate II
Advisors: ~~Joe Kucowski~~, ~~Alan Scott~~

Absent: shown by strikethroughs

Girl Scout Troop #81252 Presentation on receptacles at Dilts Park

The Girl Scouts began their presentation by introducing themselves:

The Girl Scouts began their presentation by noting that one of the Girl Scout laws is to use resources wisely; they then read the entire law aloud.

The Girls Scouts alternated speakers. In their presentation, they made note of the number of games of various sports that are played at the Dilts Park. They stated that their objective is to bring appropriate trash and recycling bins, as combination units, to the Park. They expressed that this is an opportunity to increase awareness about recycling. They also did some research on different containers that are available and showed those images to the Commission.

The Environmental Commission had a discussion about this presentation. Secretary Klink noted that monitoring the recycling/trash bins would be necessary to make this be a successful program. She noted that she had attended a recycling meeting that morning and that the biggest point of the meeting was the contamination of recycling materials.

The Commission noted that there should be two discussions involved with this request. The first discussion needs to be with the School, where the recycling would be taken (so that plastic would not be separated from recycling materials).

The second discussion would involve a talk with Jay Trstensky, head of the Township DPW. It was noted that this addition of recycling receptacles would add additional work to the picking up of trash, as the recycling material would be taken to the school first, then to the trash dumpster at the DPW.

It was noted that one way to make the program work would be to provide education about trash and proper disposal of recycling materials. Another idea that was discussed was an incentive program to promote proper recycling.

The Commission reported to the Girl Scouts that these discussions would be held and they will be notified of the results.

Minutes: March 20, 2019

The minutes of the noted meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. Member Katz made a motion to approve the minutes for discussion. Member Lockwood seconded the motion. The minutes were discussed, and changes were made including typographical errors. Said motion was approved by voice vote, with an abstention by Members Kafarski.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Penn East Pipeline – S. Lockwood

Member Lockwood noted that some studies may be performed using the eminent domain “taking” on properties. She noted in particular that there will be geologic studies, with drilling in places to find out about the feasibility of horizontal drilling under several creeks.

Secretary Klink reported that the Tax Assessor has received requests for re-evaluation on properties for which easements have been purchased.

Site Inspection Committee – K. Klink

No meeting

Clean Communities – K. Klink

Member Klink reported that the RHA Waterway clean up was successful, per the reported stats, that follow the minutes.

Recycling – K. Klink

Nothing new, see report under Website

Planning Board – K. Katz

Member Katz reported that the Land Disturbance Ordinance has been recommended to the Township Committee by the Planning Board.

Open Space Committee – S. Lockwood

Member Lockwood reported that the OS Committee is sorry to lose Member Dahringer as the liaison from the Environmental Commission to the OS Committee. She asked that other members consider taking over that position.

Member Lockwood reported that there was a discussion about the Maresca/Martin property concerning the access to the Moore Cemetery. She noted that the Martins do not want to provide access. She further noted that there is another neighbor who may be willing to give an easement to access the cemetery. Member Lockwood stated that the Township Attorney will be contacted about the easement issues.

Member Lockwood noted that the Lee Lau project is at survey stage.

Member Lockwood reported that the Township Committee decided that there is no need for access along the Bellsflower property line to Jurgensen Road.

Member Lockwood reported that the Kohler property, Cedar Lane Farm, is moving forward. She noted that the Department of Agriculture has decided to move forward with preservation even though the pipeline is proposed to go through this property. It was noted that the pipeline does not now exist and may not be built.

Member Lockwood reported that the Cizek property will be closing in May. She noted that the Township may participate in this project but must wait for the next round of funding.

Member Lockwood reported that they are waiting for contact from the owners of the Curtis farm.

Member Lockwood reported that the newest project, the Kulas Farm, will be started in the Fall. Other upcoming projects include the Prutzman property which is adjacent to Holly Farms, and the Pierman property. She noted that NJCF is looking to preserve or conserve the part of the Pierman property that is closest to the creek.

Stormwater Management – S. Lockwood
Nothing new

Easement Monitoring – R. Mongelli/J. Kafarski

Schools – K. Klink

Member Klink reported that planting for the School Meadow Trail is scheduled for May 24, starting at about 9:30. She noted that the plants being planted were purchased with the \$800.00 grant from the Washington Crossing Audubon Society.

Grants – K. Klink

Member Klink reported that all of the free trees from the NJ Tree Recovery program were given out to residents. She noted that several girls scout troops were involved with bundling the trees, in bundles of five. She also noted that some of the girl scouts took trees.

Member Royal reported on the ANJEC grant that she worked on with Member Klink. Member Royal noted that the application has been submitted and noted that the delivery was acknowledged. Member Royal stated that the \$1,500.00 request is mainly for the drainage pipe installation and the grading needed to cross from the school to the trail.

Website – J. Kafarski

Member Kafarski reported that he visited other municipal websites for recycling and noted that those for Holland and Kingwood are very user-friendly. He noted that he is interested in designing a page, “Delaware Township Recycles”. He noted that there are sites that contain a list of everything that can be recycled and how/where to go with it. The EC again discussed the issue of contamination and how it could be addressed on the website.

There was a discussion about the Environmental Commission setting up its own page. It was noted that this start-up cost is about \$600.00, but that by having a separate page, the EC can have greater organization and more space. Member Lockwood noted that we can include Conservation information – what to do/what not to do – on your easement. It was noted that there could be an FAQ section.

Chair Szwed suggested that the EC meet with Kevin Eberly of Trinity to discuss this website issue.

Member Royal discussed the idea of engaging people with ideas like a monthly book club, a blog, a Citizen Watch group, etc. She also noted that the DT website could also be a place to look for events with other groups or at other locations.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Sign up for participation dates – please check your calendars

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Girl Scout, Troop , presentation on trash/recycling receptacles for Dilts Park
- b. New member needed for Open Space – discussed under Committee Reports

- c. Speaker for Spotted Lanternfly – Tom Sheppard, Hunterdon County Parks – recommended by Dr. Paul Kurtz, who will be out on medical leave

It was noted that this talk has been scheduled for May 29, at 7:00 p.m.

- d. Anthony Leone – Sergeantsville Farmer's Market

Mr. Leone was present. He noted that he has taken over as manager and working hard to combat the dwindling attendance. He stated that there is a need to draw participants, as they are competing with other markets and other scheduled activities within the Township.

There was a discussion about the opening day for the Farmer's Market, May 11. Chair Szwed stated that the EC is establishing a fund and beginning with a fundraiser that involves the sale of bluebird boxes. The EC decided that we would set up a table to sell boxes at the Opening Day. It was discussed that other EC events could possibly be hosted with the Farmer's Market. One example is Shredder Day, May 18, 8 to 11 a.m.

Mr. Leone stated that he would like to work with the Environmental Commission to come up with other ideas.

- e. Bluebird Talk

Chair Szwed stated that the EC will sponsor "An Evening with Diane Allison" on May 15, at 7:30 p.m. He noted that she is a speaker with the North American Bluebird Association. He discussed the idea that the EC should meet at 7:00 pm, in the small conference room while Ms. Allison sets up the Meeting Room for the Bluebird Talk.

There was a discussion about the fundraiser and its ability to help the EC in meeting its goals and mission. Chair Szwed stated that an order form will be available on May 11, to help control the sales and that the delivery and additional sales can be at the next Farmer's Market on May 18.

MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS

There were no comments or questions from the public.

MEETING OPENED TO THE COMMISSION FOR COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS

Member Katz suggested that a survey be prepared and reviewed that would ask for information from the residents about well testing. It was noted that this information would be reported to the EC Secretary.

Member Katz also noted that if interested, the EC can schedule a year-end report on the well testing. She noted that Mara Tippet would be the person from Raritan Headwaters who would present the information. She noted that this type of meeting would help with one EC goal, that of educating the public. She further noted that the last year-end report was not well attended and that we need more publicity.

Another discussion about recycling resulted in the idea that Member Klink, as Recycling Coordinator should visit the set-up that Raritan Township has.

Member Lockwood discussed the progress on the energy aggregation project. She noted that the Township's ordinance on this issue passed at first reading. She noted that the concept is to get less expensive energy. She further noted that another goal of the aggregation is to have a higher percentage of renewable energy as the source of the electricity. She noted that the aggregation group cannot purchase anything more expensive than what is currently being paid.

Member Lockwood stated that JCP&L is currently offering electricity with a 28% renewable energy source. She noted that many towns affected by the pipeline have expressed interest in joining this group - Kingwood, Lambertville, and Frenchtown.

Member Lockwood noted that the Land Trust rally had a program on rain gardens that were incorporated in a green master plan element. She explained that such an element would enumerate green projects that could be completed by interested properties. She further explained that the plans would be prepared and ready for a group to take on.

Member Lockwood noted that the Open Space Committee is looking into native plantings and plantings for pollinators and incorporating such a plan into the open space properties within the Township.

Member Lockwood stated that Rutgers Cooperative Extension has programs on how-to install rain gardens. She also noted that there is a grant program and money for residents to do rain gardens.

NEXT MEETING: May 15, 2019

The Environmental Commission will next meet on the noted date at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: p.m.

It was moved, seconded, and unanimously carried to adjourn at the noted time.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen E. Klink, Secretary

SCHEDULED EVENTS

2019 Towpath Trek, March 16, 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; meet at Bull's Island

K. Klink

2018 - 12 participants; 6 bags of trash; 4 bags recycling; 4 pipes;
1 rusted cart (like a hand truck) with 2 wheels; 3 sign/fence posts

2019 – Tree Recovery Campaign – distribute 850 free trees, bundles of 5

K. Klink

April 10 – 4:30 to 7:00 pm – KK, Alan Scott, Mary Anne Royal

2019 Clean Up Days, 8:00 to 11:00 a.m., members needed for assistance

April 27 – (give away any leftover trees)

June 15 –

October 19 –

2019 Waterway Clean Up, April 13, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

K. Klink –

2019 - participants, 7 bags trash; 10 bags recycling
1 stove, 2 rugs, 1 tire, 1 tarp, some wire
(2018) 12 participants; 6 bags of trash; 4 bags recycling; 4 pipes;
1 rusted cart (like a hand truck) with 2 wheels; 3 sign/fence posts

2019 Shredder Days, 8:00 to 11:00 a.m.

May 18, K.Klink –

2019 – participants

2018 – 48 participants (2017 - 68 participants)

September 14, K.Klink –

2019 – participants

2018 – 46 participants (2017 - 47 participants)

2019 River Clean Up, September 21, 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; meet at Bull's Island or Kingwood Boat Launch - K. Klink,

2018 – 90 participants; 53 bags of trash; 35 bags recycling; 1 bag scrap recycling

2019 March on Litter – October 12, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

K.Klink

2018 – 58 participants; 11.1 miles cleaned; 18 bags trash; 6 bags recycling; 1 tire

2017 – 80 participants; 18 bags of trash, 6 bags recycling, 6 tires, 1 TV, 1 table

2019 White Oak Trail Day, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. , Meet on Quarry Road

K. Klink

2018 Planning Board inspection committee for pending applications

Also to be used for Easement Monitoring, per item #3, Delaware Township Planning Board Annual Meeting Notice Resolution, #01-2017.

January 13	February 10	March 10
April 14	May 12	June 9
July 14	August 11	September 8
October 13	November 10	December 8

RHA Waterway Clean-up

Summary Data

Site 33 - Dunkard Church Road

13-Apr-19

8:30 to 11:30
am

1-Apr-18

8:30 to 11:30 am

Distances

3.2 miles by creek

(2 miles by road)

Distances

Participants

16 adults
children, one
3 aged 3

Participants

11 adults
2 children

Collection totals

7 bags, trash

10 bags, recyclables - no plastic

2 bags plastic bottles, collected separately

1 tire

1 stove

2 rugs

1 tarp

Collection totals

6 bags, trash

4 bags, recycling

4 bags, scrap metal

1 tire

4 long pipes

3 sign/fence posts

1 rusted cart (like a hand truck)

Costs	TYPE	Costs
\$100.00	Bus	\$128.00
\$84.00	Food	\$84.00
\$23.88	Mileage	\$23.88
\$300.00	Sponsorship - RHA	\$300.00
\$600.00	Sponsorship - Volunteers	
	GS	
	#80325	
	GS	
	#80400	
\$1,107.88	TOTALS	\$535.88