

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

Chair Szwed 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, 2020.

Roll Call

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

Absent: shown by strikethroughs

Minutes: January 15, 2020

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 abstentions by Members Lockwood and Royal.

Chair Szwed introduced Ray Simonds who is the Chair for the Flemington Environmental Commission. Chair Szwed stated that Mr. Simonds is attending to see what our meetings look like.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Website - Kafarski

Member Kafarski stated that the website committee met with Kevin Eberle to determine what the website will look like. Mr. Eberle was present to help answer questions.

Member Kafarski reviewed the discussion about the website. He noted that the initial discussion on the EC website began in August, 2019. He noted that the primary content areas would be as follows: an event calendar; quarterly events; outside links, biographies of the EC members. Member Kafarski noted that the website would be similar to the Rec Commission website with the goal of engaging and informing the residents.

Member Kafarski, with the help of Member Royal, reviewed the layout starting with an event calendar that would include things like news and surveys. They noted that the quarterly area would be a place to highlight outside events, like the Community Well Testing. Another section discussed was a resource section of other sites, for example: Duke Farms, North American Bluebird Society, Raptor Trust, etc.

Mr. Eberle stated that the layout would be designed for even flow, from one page to another. He noted that there could be an email collection or contact form. He noted that such a contact would not be meant to be a hotline, but just a way to reach the EC.

The Commission discussed an early April launch. Mr. Eberle stated that there is some information that he needs by the first of March, such as member bios and some of the contacts that the EC wants to reference.

Site Inspection Committee – K. Klink

Chris Habig, Block 58, Lot 4.01, conditional use application before Planning Board for farm rental unit; revised maps were submitted.

Member Klink stated that revised maps were submitted by the applicant who is scheduled for the Planning Board agenda for the March 3 meeting. The Board reviewed the maps and agreed on new recommendations, as follows, from Site Inspection Report dated 02.25.2020:

The EC notes that it appears as though the discrepancies between maps has been changed and appears to more closely match the request of the application. It has been suggested that Engineer Rick Roseberry make that determination.

It was also noted that the maps for septic approval have the proposed rental unit mislabeled. It should be labelled as a one (1) bedroom farm rental unit. It is suggested that this change be made prior to any Board of Health approvals – Township or County.

It was also noted that the applicant proposes a permit by rule use for the crossing of the Alexauken Creek, a C-1 waterway. The EC recommends that the precise location of the crossing be marked on all maps and further marked with monuments, on the ground.

The Environmental Commission is recommending that there be a Township Conservation easement on the property, per zoning ordinance §230-102B. Prepared language for such easements can be found in the appendix of Chapter 230, Attachment 10 and Attachment 11. The Environmental Commission recommends that the easement follow the lines of the riparian zone or a minimum of 150 feet on each side of the Alexauken.

Based on these comments, there are no further recommendations, other than the usual outside agency requirements.

Clean Communities – K. Klink

Member Klink reminded everyone about Towpath Trek on March 21, 2020, 8:30 a.m., at Bull's Island.

Recycling – K. Klink

Member Klink stated that she is going to start looking for trash/recycling containers for Dilts Park.

Planning Board – K. Katz

Member Katz reported that the Planning Board reorganized at the February meeting. She also noted that the Habig application noted above was deemed complete, but that Board Engineer Roseberry stated that he agreed with the original EC Site Inspection recommendations from the EC meeting of January 15, 2020. She noted that the Planning Board asked that the discrepancies between maps be corrected before the application can proceed.

Open Space Committee – K. Katz

Member Katz reported that research is still being done to find an easement access to the Moore Cemetery on the Maresca/Martin property. She noted that this request came from SADC.

Member Katz noted that the Lee Lau project will return when the owners return from a trip that they are on. She noted that the Cizak property should close in about one month.

Member Katz noted that the County Open Space Committee is looking at the preservation of the Curtis Farm. She also noted that NJCF is going back to the owner to ask that a horse trail system be allowed as part of the preservation.

Member Katz noted that the Herman property on Route 523 needs access to be considered for development rights. She noted that if access can be gained, then the owners can apply for preservation.

Member Katz concluded by noting that Katherine Fullerton is updating the farmland preservation element of the Master Plan. Katherine Fullerton is the Open Space Coordinator.

Easement Monitoring – D. Dahringer

Member Katz reported that the committee developed a form to help collect data. Member Klink reported that she is getting copies of the new map from the Tax Assessor.

Schools – K. Klink

Member Klink reported that the Environmental Commission is going to share the Earth Day celebration in concert with DT School Art Festival. She presented a letter requesting vendors for the event. The Commission reviewed it and added one or two items of clarity. She asked the members to think of activities and prizes!

Grants – M. Royal

Member Royal stated that she will be looking for grants for the School Meadow Trail and a pipe crossing that is needed between the School and the Trail.

Penn East Pipeline – S. Lockwood

Member Lockwood stated that Penn East is applying to the US Supreme Court for a decision to allow a private company to use eminent domain to “take” state land. She noted that this application should take place in the second week of March.

Member Lockwood also noted that Penn East’s application with FERC has expired and that Penn East is asking for an extension of two years.

Member Lockwood also noted that Penn East is going to ask that the pipeline construction should go forward on the Pennsylvania side, as their application has been approved there. She noted that it is highly unusual to “bifurcate” a project, as it could result in an altered path on the NJ side.

Member Lockwood noted that the pumping station that was expanded by Alexauken Creek appears not to have an application. She noted that NJ DEP was not informed of the expansion. She noted that the expansion was requested based on what is already done there and based on the existing pipes. She noted that it was discovered that Penn East is a part of project, without approvals.

Member Lockwood noted that a medical doctor submitted concerns about the air emissions from this expansion. She noted that there appears to have been no communication between the Air Program and the Land Use Program, both a part of NJ DEP.

Member Lockwood stated that the next Pipeline Committee meeting should be on Thursday, February 20.

Stormwater Management – S. Lockwood

Member Lockwood stated that nothing proactive is going on.

Chair Szwed reported that NJ DEP representatives were on site on Locktown Sergeantsville Road. He reported that he represented the EC to be able to report that there are no Township easements on the west side of Locktown Sergeantsville Road, north of Meszaros Road, up to Block 13, Lot 4.03. He noted that the request for DEP was made by the owner of Block 13, Lot 6

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Sign up for participation dates – please check your calendars
- b. Solar panel – at Dilts

Member Kafarski reported that he and Member Klink met with Township resident, Pete Sudano. He reported that Mr. Sudano owns a solar power company. Member Kafarski reported that they met at Dilts Park to explore the best location for proposed solar panels. He noted that the best power source is at the Snack Shack, now just called the Shack. He noted that there have to be discussions about the electrical work and how to bid for that.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. 2020 Budget

The Commission reviewed the Budget and made a few changes. With those changes, the proposed Budget, which follows the minutes, will be submitted to the Finance Committee.

- b. 2019 Report of events / participation

The Commission reviewed the summary of events and volunteer participation. The Commission asked that the data be submitted to the Township Committee.

MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS

There were no comments or questions from the public.

Mr. Ray Simonds asked how often the Commission meets, to which the reply was monthly.

MEETING OPENED TO THE COMMISSION FOR COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS

Member Lockwood reminded members that the Land Trust Rally is scheduled for March 20 and that the early bird registration is \$85.00. Member Klink noted that she has attended in the past, but cannot do so this year.

Member Royal stated that she might be interested, but that she would have to check her schedule.

Member Locandro made a motion to approve up to \$100.00 for registration for one person for this event. Member Katz seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kafarski, Katz, Klink, Locandro, Szwed, Scott

Nay: None

Abstain: Lockwood, Royal

Absent: Dahringer

NEXT MEETING: March 18, 2020 – Reminder - April 15 is Bluebird Talk!

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

ADJOURNMENT: 8:20 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen E. Klink, Secretary

SCHEDULED EVENTS

2020 Towpath Trek, March 16, 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; meet at Bull's Island

K. Klink, Mary Anne Royal, Alan Scott, Susan Lockwood

2019 – 34 adults, 5 children; 44 bags trash, 49 bags recycling, 2 bags scrap metal
2 metal posts, 1 desk, construction cone, 2 each – air mattress, blow-up raft
1 mail box in concreted milk can

2018 – 16 adults, 3 children; 15 bags trash, 10 bags recycling (no plastic)
1 steel sign post, 1 metal pole, 1 muffler, 2 rolls of wire

2019 – Tree Recovery Campaign – distribute 750 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 – John Kafarski, Rich Mongelli - 53 permits collected, steady flow of traffic

June 15 – Mongelli Family – Rich, Grace, John, 33 permits

October 19 – Roger Locandro, 43 permits, two (2) no-shows

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

K. Klink –

2019 – 16 participants, 7 bags trash, 10 bags recycling
1 stove, 2 rugs, 1 tire, 1 tarp

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 – 43 participants – same day as Townwide Yard Sale

May, 2018 – 48 participants (2017 - 68 participants)

September 14, K.Klink – 62 participants

September, 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,

2019 – 108 participants; 13.5 miles along river; 48 bags trash; 11 bags recycling; 4 bags scrap; 5 bags bulky material

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

2019 – 99 participants, 14.85 miles; 16 bags trash; 24 bags recycling; 4 tires

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 – members Alan Scott, John Kafarski and Wyatt, Kathy Katz, Susan Lockwood, Tony Szwed; Also – Bob Hornby, Sam Davis, Dale Hazard

2020 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, #2020-01.

January 12	February 16	March 15
April 19	May 17	June 14
July 12	August 16	September 13
October 18	November 15	December 13