

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; supported by the ZOOM platform for virtual meetings. Chair Szwed opened the meeting at 7:32 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 20, 2022.

Roll Call

Present: Regular Members: John Kafarski, Kathy Katz, Kathy Klink, ~~Roger Locandro~~, Susan Lockwood, Mary Anne Royal (7:40 p.m.), Tony Szwed
Alternates: Deb Polay, Alternate I, ~~Zack Burger~~, Alternate II
Advisors: ~~Rich Mongelli~~, Karen Peters (7:40 p.m.), Josh Goldman
Absent: shown by strikethroughs

Minutes: April 20, 2022

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 Chair Szwed.

Presentation: Stephen Freeman – Mitigation of Rockfall on Route 29

Mr. Freeman was present to discuss the Rockfall Mitigation proposed by the North Jersey Transportation Project Authority, as part of NJ DOT. The presentation discussed the two locations along Route 29. One location is from Byram north to the Devil's Tea Table area, in Kingwood Township. The other is in West Amwell/Lambertville, near the Goat Hill area.

Mr. Freeman used a power point presentation to identify the areas and to show the methods being considered for the rockfall mitigation. It was noted that Route 29 in this area has a Wild and Scenic Byway designation, which must be addressed by the National Parks.

Mr. Freeman stated that there are several resolutions asking for full disclosure and public input. Resolutions have been adopted by the following municipalities (not an inclusive list): Frenchtown, Kingwood Township, Stockton Borough, West Amwell Township, and Hunterdon County Commissioners.

Mr. Freeman concluded by stating that he would ask Delaware Township to pass a similar resolution to be sent to NJ DOT.

Contact information:

DTTART2929@gmail.com

Facebook – Devil's Tea Table Alliance

<http://www.develisteatablealliance.org/>

There was a question and answer period following the presentation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:Site Inspection Committee – K. Klink, K Katz

Member Katz reported that this committee met last Wednesday, May 11. She noted that the applicant presented a concept plan for a subdivision at the former Ace Greenhouses on Biser Road. She described the subdivision which will create a flag lot. Member Katz noted the discrepancies between what was presented and what the ordinance allows. She noted that the Committee recommended that the applicant make the subdivision as compliant as possible. She noted that there is one variance needed, because the existing house will not meet the setback for a flag lot. She noted that the other two variances shown on the concept plan can be reconfigured.

Member Klink reported that there will be an on-site inspection on June 12. Member Bailly stated that she remembered seeing a bathroom in the greenhouse and wants to verify that. Members also want to see the location of the well for the greenhouse.

Clean Communities – K. Klink

Member Klink reported that the Township Committee has created a DPW Supervisor position which will include the Clean Communities and Recycling Coordinator positions.

Recycling – K. Klink

Household Clean Up Day summary – April 30

Member Klink reported the information on a spread sheet showing the numbers of permits and types of vehicles. The information also includes the amount of money generated from the permit fees. Said report follows the minutes.

Member Kafarski was present at this clean up. He reported that one load came in that was an entire chicken coop. He noted that the backhoe was used to remove this material and expressed his concern about the safety of this method. The EC discussed this issue and decided to review the permit information at the next meeting.

Shredder Day – May 14

Member Klink reported that there were 65 cars and that 4 tons of paper was recycled.

Open Space Committee – K. Katz

Member Katz stated that the Committee met on Monday, May 15. It was noted that the Open Space Coordinator has been working on the final draft of the farmland preservation element. Member Katz noted that the OS Chair asked that this be completed for next week for her review. Member Katz noted that once the OS Chair can review this element, she will pass it on to the OS Committee. Member Katz further noted that once ready, it will be sent to the Planning Board for the Reexamination Plan.

Member Katz reported that there is a letter of support for the Damato property, once Lee Lau, for preservation. She noted that the new owner is moving toward preservation, with direct easement from the State and at no cost to the Township.

Member Katz noted that there was a presentation from Bob Hornby explaining the draft soil protection standards. It was noted that comments are due by June 10.

There was a discussion at the OS committee meeting about a preserved farm in Franklin Township, with many greenhouses. It was noted that a violation of the farmland easement was given to this farm, which then went to court. It was noted that the Judge ruled in favor of the SADC due to the vagueness of the easement language. It was noted that this led the State to develop these rules for how much of tillable land can be disturbed. It was noted that there is a mapping program being used by Rowan University to do this soil mapping. It was further noted that regular tilling does not fall under this disturbance. It was

also noted that there will be different numbers for buildings and temporary structures; and that waivers can be sought, with numbers to be determined.

The final discussion on this is how it applies to preserved properties; the OS Committee can send comments to Bob Hornby of Hunterdon County CADB.

Planning Board – K. Katz

Member Katz noted that there will be an on-site inspection on June 12, 2022, for the former Ace Greenhouse property, once an official application is received.

Member Katz reported that Chair Westlake of the Planning Board is working on pulling together comments from the subcommittee, for the Reexamination of the Master Plan.

Easement Monitoring – M. Royal

Member Royal reported that this Committee met and will meet again to try to finalize all documents for this program.

Schools – K. Klink

Nothing, new to report

Grants – M. Royal, D. Polay

Member Polay reported that there is no grant work at this time.

Member Klink reported that there will be a Bull's Island Inlet Trail Dedication on June 3, 10:00 a.m., with a raindate of June 6, 10:00 a.m.

Website – J. Kafarski

Member Kafarski stated that at the easement monitoring committee meeting, two new ideas came up for the website. One idea is to add a section for Educational Opportunities, such as classes, webinars, etc. It was also decided that once the easement monitoring information is finalized, that there will be a direct link to this information.

Member Kafarski stated that he would set up an account on Flickr for photos.

The EC Commission discussed the next newsletter. It was decided that information can be included to make residents aware of the EC website.

Stormwater Management – S. Lockwood

Member Lockwood noted that this Committee did not meet. She did discuss the naturalization project proposed for land near a waterway at the rear of the police station property.

Member Lockwood noted that there a restoration plan has been submitted for Sandbrook Headquarters Road and Worman Road. She noted that it was not seen by the Stormwater Committee for public comment. She stated that she is not certain who signed off on this project. She further noted that this documentation should be in place in order to get FEMA reimbursement.

Projects – Chair Szwed

Nothing new

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Sign up for participation dates – please check your calendars
- b. New Schedule for 2022, please review

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Projects, not noted above

Board of Education

Member Kafarski reported that he went to the latest BoE meeting. He noted that the work for certification continues, for the Sustainable Jersey School status. He also noted that the school is working towards more efficiencies with energy.

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

There were no further comments from members of the Commission.

Question about budget

NEXT MEETING: June 15

The Environmental Commission will next meet on the noted date at 7:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:15 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen E. Klink, Secretary

Schedule of Events

2022 Towpath Trek, March 19, K. Klink

- 2022 – 22 adults, 6 children, 21 bags trash, 5 bags recycle – no plastic
One 55-gallon drum, 3 tires, car pieces, metal stake, rug
- 2021 – 28 adults, 8 children; 26 bags trash, 12 bags recycling; bike frame,
chair frame, inflatable boat, hubcaps, tire, railroad car handle
- 2020 – March 21 – cancelled, covid-19
- 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

2022 Waterway Clean Up, April 23, K. Klink – no respondents showed up

- K. Klink serves as site coordinator for this RHA site, #33
- 2021 Waterway Clean Up - 20 participants, about 3 miles; 4 bags trash, 6 bags recyclables,
some metal
- 2020 – cancelled due to covid-19
- 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

2022 Tree Recovery Campaign – April 13, 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. (done at 5:30) 450 trees,

K. Klink, M. Royal, K. Katz, D. Polay

2021 – 1000 free trees, K. Klink, K. Katz, M. Royal, D. Polay,

2020 – 1000 free trees, gone in an hour! K. Klink, Linda Bradway, Maria, Tony Szwed

2019 – 750 trees, K. Klink, Alan Scott, MaryAnne Royal, Tony Szwed

2022 Household Clean Up Days

April 30, 2022, 50 permits, 2 DPW employees, J. Kafarski, K. Klink collected permits

June 18, 2022

October 15, 2022

2021 Household Clean Up Days

April 24, 2021, 52 permits sold, 3 DPW employees, J. Kafarski

June 19, 2021, 43 permits sold, 2 DPW employees

October 16, 2021, 32 permits sold, 2 DPW employees

2020 Household Clean Up Days (NO EC volunteers)

No April Clean-Up – covid-19

June 20 – 72 permits, 3 DPW employees, residents remain in vehicles

October 17 – 33 permits sold – 3 DPW employees, residents remain in vehicles

2019 – April 27 – 53 permits; J.Kafarski, R. Mongelli

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

October 19 – 43 permits, R. Locandro

2022 Shredder Days, 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. (participants counted as vehicles)

May 14, 2022, K. Klink – 65 vehicles, 4 tons recycled paper

September 24, 2022, K. Klink

2021 Shredder Days – May 22, 2021, 61 participants, September 25, 2021

2020 – June 27, K. Klink, K. Katz – 102 participants

2019 - May 18, K.Klink – 43 participants; May, 2018 – 48 participants; May, 2017 – 68

2019 - September 14, K.Klink – 62 participants, September 2018 – 46; September 2017 - 47

2022 Delaware River Clean Up, September 17, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., K. Klink

Meet at Bull's Island or Kingwood Boat Launch - K. Klink

2021 – 1xx participants

2020 - 125 participants; 31 miles along river, 93 bags trash; 24 bags recycling; 30 tires, misc.

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

2022 March on Litter – October 9, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.; K.Klink

2021 – 128 participants, 19.2 miles; 18 bags trash; 7 bags recycling; two pipes, one tire, etc.

2020 - 36 participants, 23.3 miles; 19 bags trash; 17.25 bags recycling; car bumper/muffler

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

2022 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 9	February 13	March 13
April 24	May 15	June 12 – former Ace Greenhouse, 14/5
July - none	August 14	September 18
October 16	November 13	December 18