

The regular meeting of the Delaware Township Environmental Commission was held on the noted date in the Delaware Township Municipal Building, 570 Rosemont Ringoes Rd. (County Road 604), Sergeantsville, New Jersey; Chair Szwed opened the meeting at 7:37 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 26, 2023.

Roll Call

Present: Regular Members: John Kafarski, Kathy Katz, ~~Roger Locandro,~~
Tony Szwed, Susan Lockwood, ~~Mary Anne Royal~~
Alternates: Deb Polay, Alternate I, ~~Josh Goldman, Alternate II~~
Advisors: ~~Rich Mangelli,~~ Karen Peters, Diana Garibaldi,
~~Devin Cornia~~

Absent: Shown by ~~strikethrough~~

Minutes: February 15, 2023

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 with two corrections were approved. Said motion was approved by voice vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Planning Board/Site Inspection - K. Katz

Spring Walk Assessment with Go Hunterdon- Member Katz reported Go Hunterdon, a non-profit organization, will help arrange for a free sidewalk assessment. This will be limited to certain sidewalks and crosswalks. The purpose is to gather information that the Planning Board can use at a later date in our Master Plan as a tool in “our tool box”.

No site inspections.

Clean Communities - S. Lockwood

Household Clean-Up days were posted on the DT web-site “News and Announcements”.

2 Shredder Days are being planned – date tbd.

Open Space - S. Lockwood, K. Katz

Kathy Katz reported that NJ Conversation Foundation would like to pursue the preservation of the Toll property in Rosemont.

Open Space approved the comprehensive farmland preservation element, moved to Planning Board for approval.

Easements - K. Katz

See New Business

Schools - S. Lockwood

Member Lockwood shared they are trying to bring back composting at the cafeteria. The cafeteria is working on getting reusable flatware.

The Green Team is preparing for the April 20 earth fair.

Mary Lyons is hoping to attend the Environmental Commission meeting in May to discuss charging stations.

Grants - K. Katz, D. Polay

Moved to Old and New Business

Website - J. Kafarski

Project Medicine Drop has been posted. Member Kafarski will ask DT to link Household Clean-up days to the EC site page. Susan Lockwood noted that newsletter articles need to be submitted by end of April.

Stormwater Management - S. Lockwood

Member Lockwood reported a small group met last month to discuss what a plan would look like for submitting a grant. Planting trees and shrubs may be the best way to retain water. The township road department facility may be a good location. More discussions needed to decide on the best location and what type of actions & dollars are needed.

Projects

Diana Garibaldi reported that 4 bluebird houses were installed at Sara Dilts Park on Sunday 3/12/2023, with 3-4 additional houses planned at the park or adjoining township property. She provided pictures and locations. The nest boxes will be monitored and cleaned throughout the season. The commission discussed possibly conducting a bluebird or pollinator education course this year. Karen Peters is going to look into developing a pollinator course.

Old Business

Easements- Member Katz reported we are waiting to hear about a contact person at DT, until then EC can't go forward with letter and brochure from Easement Committee.

Grants- Member Katz reported the good news that Sustainable Jersey Grant was submitted on time. She received 3 letters of recommendation (1) letter of support by the DT Green Team, (2) Girl Scouts (Hornby) and (3) NJ Conservation Foundation (Alix Bacon). The DT resolution for the grant was passed during the last DT meeting. She expects to hear an announcement on the grant approval in April- if not approved they will provide feedback so we can learn and incorporate the feedback for next time.

White Oak Trail maintenance- Member Katz and Kafarski reported that DPW did a great job clearing up the trail. Thank you to Amanda for her help. Future cleanup such as brush hogging to be discussed.

New Business

Easements- Member Katz reported we may qualify for an ANJEC open stewardship grant of \$1500. This can be used to send easement flyers and a mass mailing. The letter would invite residents to an EC meeting to discuss easements. The documentation for this grant is much simpler to complete than the Sustainable Jersey Grant. We must document proof
ADJOURNMENT: 9:04 pm

of at least 80 hours spent on task. Grant will be awarded by 5/13/2023. We would need to get a resolution approved by DT.

Other- Member Katz reported that free classes are provided for grant and budget writing. She and Deb Polay are planning to sign up and will report back.

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.

NEXT MEETING: April 19, 2023

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Garibaldi