

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 7:35 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 March 2, 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: Minutes June 21, 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 Kafarski seconded the motion. The minutes were discussed and with one correction were approved. Said motion was approved by voice vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Planning Board/Site Inspection - K. Katz

Member Katz reported:

- The walkability assessment with goHunterdon is scheduled for July 20, 2023. They plan to cover the area on Rosemont Ringoes Rd (604) from the Delaware Township

Elementary School to the Sergeantsville United Methodist Church, and Sergeantsville Road (523) from Bagel Barn to the Sergeantsville Grain and Feed.

- The planning board attorney is continuing to review the easement model language and is expected to report on any inconsistencies and propose amendments in September.

Clean Communities - S. Lockwood.

Nothing new to report.

Open Space - S. Lockwood, K. Katz

Nothing new to report.

Easements - K. Katz

Nothing new to report.

Schools - S. Lockwood

Nothing new to report.

Grants - K. Katz, D. Polay

Sustainable NJ Grant: Member Katz reported she and member Polay may need to get permission from Sustainable NJ to reallocate grant funding from open space coordinator activities to the new website design. This will be determined after they meet with the web designer in August.

The grant information and list for feedback was posted on the DT website and Facebook. As of this meeting no feedback received.

Website - J. Kafarski

Member Kafarski noted the "Gardening with Wildlife" handouts have been uploaded to the website. The commission agreed Lisa Parent, our guest presenter, did a great job. A thank you letter will be sent (Chair Swzed).

Stormwater Management - S. Lockwood

Member Lockwood noted a SWM meeting was held. No firm projects yet. There were discussions between Delaware Township and Stockton residents about partnering with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to look at opportunities to lessen SW impacts from 523 into Stockton. It was noted 523 is a county road so any SW projects may have to happen on individual properties. There may also opportunities in the Rosemont area.

Projects

Presentation by Robert McEwan from the Lower Wild and Scenic Delaware River - Refer to "New Business"

Old Business

Discussion about EC Secretary- no updates.

White Oak Trail maintenance-

- Member Kafarski noted only part of the trail was brush hogged by DPW, the northern half of the southern portion. No ETA on when the remaining trail will be completed, but it's unlikely this year due to staff shortages. Member Kafarski made a motion to use up to \$1800 from the EC budget for trail maintenance. Member Katz seconded the motion and all members unanimously approved. Chair Swzed will reach out to Diane for a list of approved vendors.

Dilts Park Master Plan- no updates.

New Business

Presentation by Robert McEwan- Lower Wild and Scenic Delaware River

Mr. McEwan provided an explanation of the partnership program, goals of LDWSR's management plan, and the benefits to our community and rivers. The purpose of the presentation was to ask for the commission's endorsement of our tributaries Lockatong, Wickecheoke, and Alexauken Creeks that flows into the Delaware River. Mr. McEwan explained the tributary designation does not open private lands to public access, nor affects existing uses of private property. Members asked several questions which resulted in the following next steps

- Mr. McEwan to send member Katz a copy of the Management Plan and a WORD copy of the resolution. Once received a draft resolution will be created specific to Delaware Township to also include benefits.
- The draft resolution will be reviewed by the commission during EC September 20, 2023 meeting, with a vote to pass or not. If passed, the resolution will be presented to the township committee for approval.

Tree Planting Discussion- Chair Swzed to include in September 20, 2023 agenda.

March for Litter- March for Litter will be represented and led by the Environmental Commission (Member Kafarski), Recreation Committee (Jes Stahl), and DPW (Amanda Khan). Chair Szwed will coordinate a meeting to discuss and confirm details and October

date. Member Lockwood noted the article for the September newsletter is needed by the end of next week.

Annual Well Water Testing- Member Katz is coordinating the well water testing event with DPW Amanda Khan and Raritan Headquarters, with EC volunteers to help out. Member Polay will provide member Lockwood with the September newsletter article. Dates as follows:

- Well Water Testing Sample Kit Sale- Wednesday September 20, 2023, 5 pm - 7 pm.
- Well Water Testing Sample Kit Sale- Saturday September 23, 2023, 9 am - 12 Noon.
- Well Water Testing Sample Kit Return- Sample containers and completed paperwork must be returned to the Township Department of Public Works Garage (816 Sergeantsville Rd.) on Monday September 25, 2023 between 7:00 am and 9:30 am.

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: September 20, 2023

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

ADJOURNMENT: 9:11 pm

Member Katz made a motion to adjourn; member Kafarski seconded the motion.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Garibaldi