

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 7:30 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 21, 2020, updated on February 18, 2021.

Roll Call

Present: Regular Members: John Kafarski, Kathy Katz, Kathy Klink, Roger Locandro, Susan Lockwood, ~~Mary Anne Royal~~, Tony Szwed
Alternates: ~~Donna Dahringer~~, Alternate I, ~~Linda Bradway~~, Alternate II
Advisors: ~~Rich Mongelli~~, Deb Polay, ~~Zack Burger~~, ~~Karen Peters~~

Absent: shown by strikethroughs

Minutes: February 17, 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 Locandro seconded the motion. The minutes were discussed, and changes were made including typographical errors. Said motion was approved by voice vote.

Amended Agenda:

Switzler application, Block 55, Lot 2, use variance requested for tennis training facility
Environmental Commission Report for use variance application with Board of Adjustment

Secretary Klink reported that the application has been delayed until April 29. She noted that this application can still be reviewed by members who have not yet seen it, this report can be reviewed on April 21, 2021, at the regular meeting of the EC.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Site Inspection Committee – K. Klink, K Katz
No applications

Clean Communities – K. Klink

- Towpath Trek, Saturday, March 20, 2021, starting at Bull’s Island.
To date, 35 people have signed up using the same “pod” method as used for the Delaware River Clean Up.

Recycling – K. Klink
Nothing new to report

Open Space Committee – K. Katz

Member Katz reported that there was a meeting on this past Monday. She noted that the Lee Lau project needs a revision to the title; and the project is being reviewed at SADC. She noted that the Curtis Farm project will close soon. She noted no change to the Yerk property project.

Member Katz noted that there was some discussion about Ken Johnson's property, at the corner of Ferry Road and Route 523. It was noted that Mr. Johnson had recently passed away. She noted that the Open Space Committee would like to reach out to the family to inquire about preservation.

Member Katz noted that the Farmland Preservation Element may need some minor language changes and updated maps. It was noted that the Open Space and Recreation Improvement and Maintenance plan has been sent to the Township Committee for approval, to then be moved on to the County.

Member Katz reported that the Township Committee has advertised for the OS Coordinator position. She noted that one application is in, with another to follow. She also noted that the TC may reach out to surrounding Townships for interest in this position.

Planning Board – K. Katz

Member Katz reported that the main topic of discussion was the start of the reexamination plan for the Master Plan. She noted that the PB will have to identify items to achieve, and to review past goals for success/failure. She reported that Planner Dickerson gave a presentation providing background on the project. It was suggested that the PB reach out to various boards, commissions and committees and ask for input from those groups on various elements.

Member Katz noted that the Planning Board has to adopt a Reexamination Report by September 4, 2022. She noted that new elements have been added concerning green issues, including conservation and climate change related to vulnerability assessment.

Secretary Klink reported that the conservation element will be distributed to members. The topic of green projects could be added to this element. Secretary Klink also reported that much information can be accessed from ANJEC and the Watershed Institute.

Member Lockwood reported that there is a Hillsborough presentation that could be an outline to follow.

Member Katz stated that in 1994, the recycling and solid waste elements were added.

One new element was identified as follows: 40:55D-28b(16) Green Infrastructure and Environmental Sustainability.

Easement Monitoring – M. Royal

Not present

Schools – K. Klink

Nothing new until extracurricular activities are allowed.

Grants – M. Royal, D. Polay

No work being done

Website – J. Kafarski

Member Kafarski reported that Kevin Eberle, of Trinity Web Media has fixed the calendar and the bluebird flyer was displayed. He noted that the latest bios are still not up.

Member Kafarski asked for email links that would direct residents to outside resources, and he will connect with Kevin. It was decided that John will be the contact between the Commission and Kevin.

The Commission discussed Quarterly Topic #2. It was agreed that the emerald ash borer (EAB) is still a very pertinent topic. It was decided to leave Quarterly Topic #2 as Threats from Pests, with a rehash of last year's information and updates as provided.

North Jersey RC&D (Resource, Conservation & Development) asked that a flyer about a rain garden program be displayed on our site. Members agreed; Secretary Klink also stated that she will ask the school to do an eblast.

There was discussion about items that need to come and go on the website, or to be revised. Member Kafarski stated that he will find out more about this.

There was also a discussion about email sign ups. Member Kafarski stated that nothing has come through on this yet. It was noted that the Township Committee is reviewing the Township website, at this time. Member Lockwood stated that complaints continue to come in about the difficulty of using the Township website. There was an IT meeting with Kevin Eberle of Trinity, Deputy Clerk Crivelli, and Township Committee Member Herman about one month ago, with no report given.

The EC decided to look at the original contract to see if everything has been done per that contract. Member Kafarski stated that he felt that most of the issues are out of last year's contract. He stated that he will look at the contract more critically.

Member Lockwood stated that she was on the Kingwood Township website that was much easier to use. She noted that Kingwood has a person who manages it. She stated that she felt that it was the mayor.

Penn East Pipeline – S. Lockwood

Member Lockwood reported that this Committee meeting is Thursday night. She noted that the Federal government sent contact information about how the state can stop the pipeline. She noted that there is some confusion about what the federal government is doing. She noted that the arguments will be presented before the US Supreme Court and should be soon. Member Kafarski stated that the date for arguments is April 28, with a decision to follow in June. He reported that one may be able to listen to the arguments live.

Stormwater Management – S. Lockwood

Member Lockwood reported that there is nothing new. She noted that the Township Committee passed the updated ordinance that the state put into effect. She noted that the new ordinance uses more green infrastructure. She also stated that she is not sure how the new ordinance affects Delaware Township.

Projects – Chair Szwed

Nothing new

OLD BUSINESS

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

Household Clean Up Day, April 24, 2021, 7:30 to 10:30 a.m., K. Klink/John Kafarski

Three DPW employees are to be scheduled. Anybody that will be fully vaccinated by then can volunteer to help, please notify Secretary Klink. Member Kafarski volunteered to help.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Projects, not noted above

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 14, 2021

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

ADJOURNMENT: 7:20 p.m.

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

BLUEBIRD TALK, by Diane Allison started at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen E. Klink, Secretary

Schedule of Events

2021 Towpath Trek, March 20, K. Klink

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

2020 Waterway Clean Up, April 18 – cancelled, covid-19

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

2020 – Tree Recovery Campaign – distribute 1000 free trees, bundles of 5, June 2

K. Klink, Linda Bradway, Maria, Tony Szwed (gone in about an hour!)

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

2020 Clean Up Days,

No April Clean-Up – covid-19

June 20 – NO EC volunteers – 72 permits, 3 DPW employees, no residents out of vehicles
October 17

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

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

October 19 – 43 permits, R. Locandro

2020 Shredder Days, 8:00 to 11:00 a.m.

- 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

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 – Habig, for PB, Block 58, Lot 4.01	February 16	March 15
April 19	May 17	June 14
July 12	August 16	September 13
October 18	November 15	December 13