

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. Vice Chair Katz opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

STATEMENT

Vice Chair Katz 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, ~~Tony Szwed~~
Alternates: Deb Polay, Alternate I, ~~Zack Burger~~, ~~Alternate II~~
Advisors: ~~Rich Mongelli~~, Karen Peters, Josh Goldman
Absent: shown by strikethroughs

Minutes: March 16, 2022

The minutes of the noted meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. Member Locandro made a motion to approve the minutes for discussion. Member Polay seconded the motion. The minutes were discussed, and changes were made including typographical errors. Said motion was approved by voice vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

Clean Communities – K. Klink

Member Klink reported that all of the spots for this clean up have been filled. She noted that the clean up occurs on the Third Neshanic River tributary along Dunkard Church Road.

Recycling – K. Klink

Member Klink reported that a new electronics collection service is being explored. She noted that this service will come to the DPW garage to pick up the materials instead of a DPW worker taking the materials to Lakewood.

Open Space Committee – K. Katz

Member Katz reported that the OC Committee went over the comments on farmland preservation element for the Master Plan. She noted that the OC Coordinator is hoping to get the draft to the Planning Board for its June meeting.

Member Katz reported that the Lee Lau project ended when the property owners did not realize the amount of money lost due to exclusions on the property. She noted that the property was sold and that the new owners are interested in preservation. She noted that the new owners are interested in an easement to cover an echo unit for their aging parents.

Member Katz stated that the OC Committee did not receive the EC recommendations for Dilts Park. Secretary Klink stated that she would resend it.

Planning Board – K. Katz

Member Katz reported that the Planning Board met in April to review the Trap Rock Quarry reclamation plan which is required every 10 years. She noted that this review coincides with the Reexamination of the Master Plan.

Member Katz reported that there are no changes to the 2012 reclamation plan and that there have been no changes since 2012. She noted that there were four items on the report from Township Engineer Paul Sterbenz that will need to be reinspected. She also noted that groundwater monitoring data has been submitted but that no report has been issued for 2016-2017 and for the last three quarters of 2021. It was noted that the Planning Board Engineer will be looking into that data.

Member Lockwood asked if the Planning Board will have public meetings about the Reexamination of the Master Plan. Member Katz stated that she is unclear whether about public hearings ahead of the public hearing process or public hearing as part of the approval process. Member Lockwood expressed her concern that by the time there is a draft, it may already be too far along for comments.

Member Katz reported that the easement language will be sent to the Planning Board Attorney for review and revisions.

Easement Monitoring – M. Royal

Member Royal reported that the committee is working on a draft for a pamphlet on easement monitoring. She also noted that the Committee is developing a letter for new property owners that have an easement on their properties; "Welcome! You have an easement!"

Member Royal stated that the Committee hopes to finish the pamphlet and start inspection dates.

Schools – K. Klink

Green Team – Earth Day Celebration- April 14, 2022

Member Klink reported that she thought the Celebration was a great success. Member Lockwood was present and agreed. Devin Cornia, Northeast Organic Farming Association, was also present at the celebration and agreed that it was successful. All members present thought that there was a good variety of activities and presenters.

Grants – M. Royal, D. Polay

Nothing new

Website – J. Kafarski

Member Kafarski was not present but emailed his comments to Secretary Klink. He noted that the EC can sign up for a free Flickr account that holds up to 1000 pictures. He noted that there is a \$100 cost for additional storage, but thought that 1000 pictures is enough.

Member Kafarski noted that he and his wife have a stand at the Dvoor Farmer's Market. He stated that they are willing to sell the EC bluebird boxes.

Stormwater Management – S. Lockwood

Member Lockwood noted that this Committee is looking for a project. She noted that they met at the Road Department garage abutting the police department property. She noted that this Township property abuts the Rose Creek. She noted that it is a large property with the rear of property nearest the creek being very wet. She noted that right now the whole property is being mowed. This Committee suggested that trees could be planted on the lower, wet end of the property to decrease the amount of mowing. She noted that the Committee thinks that this restoration would promote stormwater runoff protection.

Member Lockwood stated that when she took this information to the Township Committee, the TC suggested that grants be sought. There was also a discussion about a rain garden that could be used as an education tool.

Member Royal noted that if a plan is developed for all Township properties through the use of the park planner it would benefit any grant writing to be done. She noted that perhaps there should be collaboration between the Storm Water Committee and the Environmental Commission, with a possible joint meeting.

Member Katz stated that she thought a planner had been hired for the work on Dilts Park.

Projects – Chair Szwed

Green Team Certification is a long term project to be promoted. Secretary Klink stated that it is a very lengthy process.

OLD BUSINESS

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

NEW BUSINESS

a. Devin Cornia, Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA) of NJ
Devin Cornia was present, he is the Executive Director of NOFA of New Jersey. He stated that he would like to get involved with organic farmers in the area. He stated that NOFA is a 37-year old nonprofit supporting organic farming. He noted that the legislators are supporting protection of the environment and working with organic farmers in a way to promote environmental protection.

Mr. Cornia asked to have website space on the EC section for NOFA information. He stated that he thinks this would promote good exposure for organic farming.

Mr. Cornia thanked the EC for any work done in promoting farmland and open space. He stated that he is interested in becoming involved with the Township. He noted that he can help support organic commercial farmers and organic farming on smaller plots, including hobbyists or homesteaders growing their own food.

Mr. Cornia was asked if he wanted to become an advisor and also join the Ag Advisory Committee of the Planning Board. He stated that he is interested.

Member Lockwood stated that if Mr. Cornia wants to write up a summary of NOFA, it could get into the next newsletter.

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

Member Peters stated that she is excited about the addition of Devin Cornia. She also stated that less mowing by the Township will be more beneficial to pollinators.

There were no further member comments.

NEXT MEETING: May 18

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

Secretary Klink reminded members that there will be a short presentation on the Rockfall Mitigation proposed along Route 29, by Stephen Freeman.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:30 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

2021 Towpath Trek - 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 – respondees did not show 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 5:30 (“sold out”)

– K. Klink, K. Katz, M. Royal, D. Polay – 400 trees distributed

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 sold, 2 DPW employees, J. Kafarski

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

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 8, ch 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
July - none	August 14	September 18
October 16	November 13	December 18