

Environmental Commission

Meeting Minutes February 21, 2024

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 Kafarski opened the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

STATEMENT

Chair Kafarski 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 <u>Hunterdon County Democrat, Trenton Times,</u> and <u>Star Ledger</u>, posted on the Delaware Township bulletin board, posted on the Township website, and on file at Town Hall, all on December 26, 2023.

Roll Call

Present: Regular Members: John Kafarski, Kathy Katz, Roger Locandro, Susan Lockwood (7:36), Deb Polay, Mary Anne Royal

Alternates: Karen Peters, Alternate I; Diana Garibaldi, Alternate II

Advisors: Devin Cornia, Josh Goldman, Rich Mongelli

Absent: Shown by strikethrough

Minutes: Minutes December 20, 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 Polay seconded the motion. The minutes were discussed and with one correction regarding a date change, were approved by voice vote, with an abstention by Member Royal. **Correspondence:** Member Katz noted that the DEP individual flood permit was granted for the Sandbrook Headquarters Rd. property, Block 41 Lot 1.01 and 1.10, as a condition of the final approval. The property is going through the Board of Adjustment for time extension.

Nomination for Vice Chair: Member Katz nominated Mary Anne Royal and she accepted the nomination. Seconded by Member Lockwood. The nomination was approved by unanimous vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

<u>Planning Board/Site Inspection -</u> K. Katz Member Katz reported that there was no meeting because there is still a vacancy in the Planning Board secretary position.

Clean Communities & Recycling

Member Lockwood stated that a new person was hired for the Director of Public Works/Clean Communities Coordinator position.

Open Space - S. Lockwood, K. Katz

Member Katz discussed the Boars Head Road property. The State is reviewing the property and the Township is waiting on movement from the State.

The Kohler Property owner is awaiting word from the State.

The Open Space website was updated to show all open farmland and preserved spaces by lots. There are also links for homeowners to get information on open space preservation.

Easements - K. Katz

The secretary will help facilitate the list of easements that will be sent out to homeowners in the township.

Schools - S. Lockwood

An Earth Day celebration will be held on Wednesday, April 24. Chair Kafarski mentioned work will start soon on the mural in the main lobby of DTS.

Grants - K. Katz, D. Polay

Member Katz reported on the parcel identifications and the finalization of the parcels to be loaded onto the website and how the data will be presented. A QR code to direct to the website where trail maps and other information can be accessed, along with a post card to be sent to township residents alerting them to these changes is ongoing and planned to be finished by the summer.

Member Garibaldi is verifying the GPS coordinates for the parking areas.

<u>Website</u> - J. Kafarski Nothing new to report.

Stormwater Management - S. Lockwood

Member Lockwood reported that she requested a joint meeting with township engineer and Environmental Commission. The township committee wants to wait for the new Director of Public Works to start since he is also part of Clean Communities. Stormwater requirements under the Clean Water Act were discussed.

Projects

Member Garibaldi mentioned a way to have all upcoming projects/events included at the end of the minutes as it was when Kathy Klink was secretary.

Kathy Klink stated that the bluebird boxes found at Tony Szwed's house might be sold in his memory. Chair Kafarski will coordinate with Kathy Klink on that project.

Old Business

Lower Wild and Scenic Delaware River - Resolution Update Nothing new to report

<u>White Oak Trail - Maintenance Update</u> No report

<u>Electric Vehicle Charging Station- Sub Committee Update</u> A meeting was held to discuss current status of EV charging stations in the state. Grants were investigated and Flemington is somewhere to look at for ideas. An informational sheet will be put together.

<u>Dilts Park Pesticide Spray Application Updates</u> Member Garibaldi proposed working on a process where residents are given a courtesy and notified in advance when spraying will be taking place. She will present her ideas at the next EC meeting.

<u>Stormwater Permit Tier A Points System</u> Member Lockwood stated that a meeting and training on the new tier is needed.

Well Testing Results from 9/23/23 –

Member Katz went over the well testing results. 56 taps were tested. Radon levels were an area of particular concern.

New Business

<u>Regular Member Position Discussion</u> Applications for EC were received from Donna DiMatteo, Robert Weber, Jane Engel and Kathy Klink.

Karen Peters moved to a regular member and Diana Garibaldi moved to Alternate I position. Kathy Klink will move to an Alternate II position.

Chair Kafarski Invited new applicants Jane Engel, Donna DiMatteo and Robert Weber to be advisors.

<u>Membership for 2024</u> Membership dues were factored into the 2024 budget.

<u>March on Litter Coordinator Position Discussion</u> Kathy Katz will talk to Kathy Klink regarding the coordinator position.

Dues – ANJEC and RHA

The secretary will reach out to both organizations for the membership forms.

2024 Budget

The budgeted amount for 2024 is \$3,940.00. Expenses stayed the same except for an increase in dues.

White Oak Trail/State Park Tree Discussion

A discussion was held regarding who is liable for repairs after a tree fell on a Federal Twist Rd.'s resident's deer fence from State Park property. A letter from Mayor Waltman was distributed outlining the town's responsibility versus the property owner's responsibility when it comes to dead or fallen trees.

SWAC – Municipal Tonnage Grant Application

This position is being passed along to the township committee pending the recycling coordinator's certification.

Events for 2024

Tentative cleanup day: April 27 7:00-10:30 a.m. at DPW. This is pending the new Director of Public Works. Kathy Klink mentioned the NJ tree recovery program will be held in April. Once events are finalized, they will be added to the end of the minutes.

Guest Speakers for 2024

Master Gardener talks are a possibility. Susan offered to do Wetlands discussions.

MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS Kathy Klink suggested a bamboo ordinance in which residents would have to maintain bamboo on their property. Kathy Klink offered to research what other townships are doing for invasive bamboo.

<u>MEETING OPENED TO THE COMMISSION FOR COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS</u> Chair Kafarski requested any memorial ideas for Tony Szwed, and benches on the green were one of the suggestions made.

<u>NEXT MEETING: March 20, 2024</u> The Environmental Commission will next meet on the noted date at 7:30 pm.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:45 pm

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

Respectfully submitted, Lisa Aron, Secretary

