



Environmental Commission

Meeting Minutes
March 20, 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 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 December 28, 2023.

Roll Call

Present: Regular Members: John Kafarski, Kathy Katz, ~~Roger Locandro~~, Susan Lockwood, ~~Karen Peters~~, ~~Deb Polay~~, Mary Anne Royal

Alternates: Diana Garibaldi, Alternate I; Kathy Klink, Alternate II

Advisors: ~~Devin Cornia~~, Donna DiMatteo, ~~Josh Goldman~~, ~~Rich Mongelli~~

Absent: Shown by ~~strike through~~

Minutes: Minutes February 21, 2024

The minutes of the noted meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. Member Katz made a motion to approve the minutes for discussion. Member Royal seconded the motion. The minutes were discussed and with corrections, were approved by voice vote.

Correspondence: Chair Kafarski reviewed the letters he sent to Sustainable Jersey and the Delaware Township Committee regarding the Lower Delaware Wild & Scenic River. A letter was also received from Princeton Hydro regarding Block 19, Lots 7 and 7.05.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Planning Board/Site Inspection - K. Katz

Nothing new to report. They will be meeting in April.

Clean Communities & Recycling

Nothing new to report. Member Klink is waiting to meet with the Director of Public Works.

Open Space - S. Lockwood, K. Katz

Member Katz reported that the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) received approval for two properties on Boars Head Rd. The Kohler property was approved for preservation in 2014, but SADC has still not heard back from the property owner. The owner will need to be contacted again, and Member Lockwood will be reaching out to them.

Easement Monitoring - K. Katz

Member Royal reported that the committee met to discuss the types of easements that the Environmental Commission is responsible for, which are: environmental, natural areas and drainage. The easement information pamphlet will be printed and posted to the website. A welcome letter can be sent to new owners about easements once the Commission has confirmation on which environmental easements are its responsibility.

Schools – John Kafarski

Delaware Township School Board and school Green Team Members Jes Stahl and Mary Lyons were present at the meeting. Ms. Stahl and Ms. Lyons discussed the “Waste Not Wednesdays” at the school and the efforts that have been made to Terracycle items in the cafeteria. An overview of the Terracycle program was given and the potential for future expansion of Terracycling throughout the township was discussed.

Chair Kafarski noted that the Earth Day celebration at the school will take place on April 24, from 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. and volunteers are needed to help.

Grants - K. Katz, D. Polay

Member Katz reported that the mock up for the parcels is finished and the Planning Board planner is putting the parcels on the map of the township, which will be posted online. Mileage has been added from the nearest intersection in both directions (north and south) and latitude and longitude will be added as well. The

project unveiling is tentatively scheduled for June. With permission from the Township and Sustainable Jersey, leftover grant money will be used for a sign with a QR code to access trail maps.

Website - J. Kafarski

Chair Kafarski reported that the Township's website now reflects the well testing results, the new secretary contact information and the new members. He will be adding the NJ Tree Recovery locations to the website.

Stormwater Management - S. Lockwood

Member Lockwood reported that a meeting with the Director of Public Works regarding the Tier A stormwater permit will not take place until next month.

Projects

Member Garibaldi reported that she cleaned out the bluebird boxes at Dilts Park.

Member Klink brought up putting notice of the available bluebird boxes onto the website for community members to purchase.

Old Business

Lower Wild and Scenic Delaware River - Resolution Update

Chair Kafarski reported that he sent a letter to the Township Committee asking for input to assist the Environmental Commission with anything needed for the designation of the Lower Wild and Scenic Delaware program.

Dilts Park Pesticide Spray Application Regulations

Member Garibaldi gave a presentation on pesticide application at Dilts Farm Park and the request that the public be notified in advance of any spraying.

White Oak Trail Maintenance Plan

Chair Kafarski will coordinate with the secretary to follow up with NJ DEP via email. There is a 5-year renewal period on the MOA for the White Oak Trail. The current MOA has expired and there has been difficulty in receiving information back from the State.

Electric Vehicle Charging Station- Sub Committee Update

Nothing new to report.

Stormwater Permit Tier A Points System

Member Lockwood reported that there is confusion on when the Tier A points need to be acquired by and who would coordinate and keep track of the points. The Environmental Commission is waiting on the Township engineer regarding how to move forward on gathering necessary information for points system.

Dues – ANJEC and RHA

This is pending the budget approval in May.

March on Litter Coordination Position

Nothing new to report.

SWAC – Municipal Tonnage Grant Application

Chair Kafarski noted that this application is in the hands of the Township Committee and the Director of Public Works.

Guest Speakers for 2024

Chair Kafarski requested input on guest speakers for the year. Member Lockwood mentioned doing a Wetlands talk, possibly on May 15.

New Business

Regular Member Position Discussion/Zoom Update

Deb Polay submitted her resignation to the Township Committee, which opens up a new member position. It will be recommended that Diana Garibaldi move to regular full member, Kathy Klink to Alternate I and Donna DiMatteo to Alternate II.

2024 Budget

Chair Kafarski submitted the budget approval request to the Township CFO.

Events

Member Klink reported that the household clean-up day is still being scheduled. A tentative date of April 27 was discussed but not finalized.

MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS

Jes Stahl asked about the Dilts Park improvements and their effect on the pond.

MEETING OPENED TO THE COMMISSION FOR COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS

Member Klink will research a bamboo ordinance.

NEXT MEETING: April 17, 2024

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

ADJOURNMENT: 9:19 pm

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

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Aron, Secretary