



## Environmental Commission

Meeting Minutes  
November 20, 2024

The regular meeting of the Delaware Township Environmental Commission (known in the minutes as EC) 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 7:30 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: Diana Garibaldi, John Kafarski, ~~Kathy Katz~~, ~~Roger Locandro~~, Susan Lockwood, ~~Karen Peters~~, Mary Anne Royal

Alternates: Kathy Klink (7:35), Alternate I; Donna DiMatteo, Alternate II

Advisors: ~~Devin Cornia~~, Jane Engel, ~~Josh Goldman~~, ~~Rich Mongelli~~, ~~Robert Weber~~

Absent: Shown by ~~strikethrough~~

Members of the public: None

**Minutes:** Minutes October 16, 2024

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

**Correspondence:** Chair Kafarski read a letter from Jeff Tareila Environmental Consulting, regarding an application for permit or approval from the NJDEP on behalf of the homeowner of Block 25, Lot 50. This permit or approval would seek to establish the freshwater wetlands boundary on the property.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Planning Board/Site Inspection - K. Katz

No report

Clean Communities & Recycling

No report for either

Chair Kafarski reported on two events that took place: Shredder Day and Household Cleanup Day.

Open Space - S. Lockwood, K. Katz

Member Lockwood reported that the Burns property owners have selected appraisers. The Open Space Committee is still working on updating the targeted farms list, which would be submitted to the State agricultural committee. Smaller farms may be included in the updated list due to changes from the State. The targeted farms list will be used by the Open Space Committee to reach potential farmland preservation properties via an outreach postcard once the list is available. The Open Space Explorers program continues being developed and a school liaison will be needed. A budget for these projects will be determined at the next meeting. The committee members are also considering better ways to utilize their website.

Easement Monitoring - K. Katz

Nothing new to report

Environmental Ordinance – Katz

No report

Schools – John Kafarski

Chair Kafarski reported that there were two Board of Education candidates re-elected and one new member elected. The school conducted a reunification drill

that began at DTS and concluded at the Sergeantsville Fire House.

Grants - K. Katz

Member Royal distributed information on three potential grants. The Mohawk Canoe Club grant could be used for a boat slip with possible sites suggested as Bulls Island or Prallsville Mills. The National Park Service Challenge Cost Share grant could benefit the White Oak Trail. The William Penn Foundation grant could be used for stormwater runoff. The grant deadlines are fast approaching but the grants could still be explored for 2025.

Website - J. Kafarski

No report

Stormwater Management - S. Lockwood

Member Lockwood reported that the project location moved and a meeting between the necessary parties did not occur. The future of the project is unknown.

Projects

Member Garibaldi inquired about the status of the Dilts Park project from the Township Committee and suggested there being a standing agenda item with public comment at the Township Committee meetings. Member Garibaldi will take over the EC website responsibilities in January.

**Old Business**

Dilts Park Pesticide Spray Application Regulations

Chair Kafarski reported on the mayor's conversations with DPW regarding the spraying at the park. The pesticide information will not be published by the DPW. The EC members held a discussion regarding the possibility of OPRA requests done as a Township resident and/or calling the chemical manufacturer for more information. The EC will compile a list of alternative products that are safer, and Members DiMatteo and Garibaldi will report back with what options are available.

White Oak Trail Maintenance Plan and MOA/

The secretary reported that the Policy Advisor at NJDEP was to meet with her managers last week to discuss the next steps in terms of finalizing the MOA. No other updates are available at this time.

EV Charging Station Update

Chair Kafarski reported that an EV charging station update was given by Mary Lyons to the Township Committee which discussed information about costs and possible grants associated with the project.

## **New Business**

Chair Kafarski gave a summary of a letter sent by the Township attorney to the NJDEP regarding the condemned Schneider property on Sergeantsville Road. The letter states that the Township Committee renews its request that NJDEP should meet with the EC to discuss the property's effect on a neighboring well.

Chair Kafarski noted the fees for ANJEC were not spent this year. There is also an additional \$2,000.00 in the budget that comes from unused funds for the White Oak Trail maintenance. The consensus from the EC was that the money would be best spent on rebuilding the bridge on the White Oak Trail closest to Quarry Road, using on-site locust cut with a portable sawmill.

Chair Kafarski moved to earmark the \$2,000.00 for the White Oak Trail bridge repair. A motion was made by Member Lockwood in favor of the bridge repair using on-site locust and a portable sawmill. The motion was seconded by Member DiMatteo and approved by unanimous vote.

An EC fundraising opportunity for 2025 was discussed. This would include selling maps of the Township originally made in 1987 which would be updated to include open spaces.

2025 Membership Appointments: The three members whose terms are expiring are Kathy Katz, Roger Locandro and Susan Lockwood.

Chair Kafarski reported that Members Katz and Lockwood would like to continue their current membership roles with the EC. Member Locandro is recommended to be an alternate.

### MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS

None

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Member Royal would like to promote participation in community citizen science for the EC going forward. It would allow collaboration between other committees, schools and NGOs, and also earn points for the educational component.

### NEXT MEETING: December 18, 2024

The Environmental Commission will next meet for a meeting on the above-mentioned date at 7:30 p.m.

### EVENTS

Suggested events for 2025 could include presentations from NJ Watershed through the NJDEP.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:51 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Aron, Secretary