Environmental Commission Minutes
October 22, 2026 @ 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call – Meeting called to order at 7:06 pm

Members	Attended October Meeting
Peter Dlugos – Chair	X
Eric Duch – Co-Chair	X
Dana Flynn	
Christine Aboulhosn	X
James Myers	X
Randy Gutwein	X
Greg Smith	
Ricky Proctor	
Joshua Spahl	
Dianne Snyder – Secretary	X

Open Public Meeting Statement was read**.**

Public Participation and Open Forum – No members of the public were present.

Peter handed out T-shirts and hats to all members to advertise the Byram Environmental Commission!

Review of September, 2026 Meeting Minutes – Motion made by Eric and seconded by Christin to accept minutes. Meeting minutes approved and to be posted to website.

Committee Reports

- **MRMC:** Randy gave a first look at the new **musconetcong.org**, as well as a water quality update and support from the MWA on proposed development in Stanhope.
  To explore the preview, go to: musconetcondev.wpenginepowered.com

  Water Quality Update:
  Road Salt Monitoring season is almost here!
  - Trainings will be held on a rolling basis
  - Contact Craig for more info: Craig@musconetcong.org

  Developments:
  Stanhope EC approached us with an ask to look over the site plans of a residential development planned in their municipality near the Mansfield Trail superfund site. MWA gave recommendations to the EC on the stormwater and recommendations around water quality testing for contaminants before, during and after any potential development on the site.

- **Open Space** – Peter and Eric gave a report on the County Trails Grant implementation. There was also discussion of the lack of progress in addressing the 1+ acre of barberry swallowing a segment of the loop of the Briar Ridge South Trail.

- **Council** – No update

.

- **Byram Trail Keepers** – No update

Member Reports – None

New Business

- Peter summarized the activity at the co-sponsored Forest Loom and Weaving Event on 10/11 and 10/12. Turnout on Saturday was very good.
- There was brief discussion of the upcoming Bobcat Loop Trail Building session on 10/25 (10:00am -2:00pm)
- Proposed 2027 EC Meeting Dates were reviewed and approved.
- Peter reviewed a draft of a developing Community Energy Plan. Sections 1.9, 2.8, 2.11 and 3.11. are the sections that the Environmental Commission will implement, with external assistance, as needed. All of the objectives involve community outreach involving solar energy and electric vehicles.
- Peter suggested a change in the planning process for 2027: that new events will require at least a 2- to 3-person team of EC members who will collaborate on the planning and execution. Discussion of 2027 goals was deferred to the November meeting.

Planning Board Applications:

Kieron and Alette Boyle Z08-2026, Block 275 Lot 737.02, 159 Forest Lake Drive, Boyle

No comments.

Evan and Emily Smith Z09-2026 Block 286 Lot 111, 28 Hemlock Road, Emily and Evan Smith

No comments.

Kerri and Michael Wilson Block 400 Lots 161,162, 8 Sleepy Hollow Road, Wilson

No comments.

Elvis Jean Block 304 Lot 3.02, 523 East Shore Trail, Elvis Jean

The EC would like to review the application again after the engineer's review has been submitted. How will the runoff from the new patio be handled? To where will the water be diverted? With respect to the patio construction, we trust that the new Township ordinance regarding importing of any fill dirt will be followed.

Jefferson Lake Camp Block 366 Lot 3.01 and Block 370 Lot 7.01, 38 Jefferson Lake Road, Jefferson Lake Day Camp

No comments.

Highlands Interactive Map: https://www.nj.gov/njhighlands/gis/REX/#-74.69086,40.90764,5.17

Old Business

• **Preparing for Prescribed Burn in Tamarack Park** No updates	• "**Dirty Dirt" In Forest Lakes** No updates
• **Mansfield Trail Superfund Site** No updates	• **West Brookwood River Cleanup** No updates

Training – NJUCF CEUs count 5 (Dana 3.5; Peter 6;) (awaiting Peter's certs from NJUCF)

Membership – Alternate II position is vacant.

Budget – approximately $400 remaining; field work equipment will be purchased.

Next Meeting scheduled November 17, 2026 @ 7 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn was made by Peter and seconded by Eric. Meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.