

Environmental Commission
Meeting Minutes – May 23, 2019

Call to Order/Role Call – The meeting was called to order at 7:35pm and the following members were present: James Myers, Jim Reinhold, Katie Baron, Helene Jaros, Michelle Rehse, Lisa Shimamoto (Planning Board liaison) and Donna Fett (Secretary).

Open Public Meeting Statement – Adequate notice of this meeting has been made with the Open Public Meetings Act, NJSA 10:4-6.

Review of April 25, 2019 Meeting Minutes - A motion to approve the meeting minutes was made by James, seconded by Lisa.

Committee Reports:

- MRMC – Michelle reported that they discussed the C-1 waterways proposal and MWA is writing a letter in support of the proposal. Their next meeting is scheduled for June 18th.
- Recreation – Their next meeting is scheduled for May 28th. Katie heard that Byram Day will be held on October 5th and the theme will be “Build a Better Byram”. Katie will be participating in the subcommittee meeting and will keep EC informed.
- Open Space – Their next meeting is scheduled for June 10th.
- Council – Although Harvey was not in attendance, he sent his report to Secretary. He advised that:
 - Council is considering an ordinance to regulate the importation of dirt into the Township. There is a problem in Vernon currently on this topic. EC agreed this could be a potential issue and recommended Secretary to look through Township files.
 - Council will receive a quote to cover the architect’s work on the municipal building project.
 - The Open Space Assessment project with Greener by Design is moving along. EC discussed their comments with Ben Spinelli at the March meeting and has no further needs at this time.
 - Some Forestry Stewardship grants were approved.

New Business:

Spring Trail Clean-up/Hike – EC discussed the possibility of doing a clean-up or hike to coincide with National Trails Day (June 1st). The group would like to do a clean-up on Cranberry Ledge Trail from 10 am-12 noon. Township management approval will be sought. Scope of work entails:

- Removing small branches/tree limbs off trail;
- Removing any leaves/small vegetation off trail;
- Reporting any large trees covering trail to Donna to coordinate with DPW to remove

Ongoing Business:

- ANJEC 2019 Grant Status – unfortunately we were not awarded the grant due to limited funding. The grant amount requested was \$1500.

- Lot Disturbance/Coverage Research – Lisa is working through the information she’s researched and will compile the data. She found an ordinance from Chester with a table that described lot sizes and coverages.
- Township Calendar Project – Calendar samples were reviewed by members and EC would like to continue to research this. The cost to print calendars could be reduced if we obtained advertising. EC members would be willing to contact businesses and services. There is a minimum order of 3,000 required. We would provide the vendor with dates of meetings/events to be posted (ex. trash and recycling pick-ups, etc.). The timeline is tight and was also reviewed:
 - Labor day – submit photos with a minimum of 300 dpi, jpeg preferred
 - October 1st – events and meeting dates
 - November – calendars to be printed
 - Week before Christmas – calendars delivered to a central location for distribution
- Arbor Day Update – a big success and thank you to EC members who volunteered their time (Helene, Katie and Lisa). Several members of Lenape Valley’s Go Green Club and their advisor also participated. Over 160 seedlings were distributed to residents and the remaining dozen seedlings were planted on Township properties by DPW. Certificates of appreciation were given to the students and pictures of the event were shared with them for publication in their newsletter. Go Green would like to participate in future projects with us. In addition, one resident expressed interest in joining EC.
- Lubbers Run C-1 Designation – Lisa reported that this was discussed at the Planning Board meeting. It wouldn’t affect the Village Center and homes in the potential area may be minimally affected. EC has no further comments.

Planning Board Applications:

- Dean, Kevin & Tom – 13 Laurel Trail – Block 172, Lot 27 – EC reviewed the application and had the following comments:
 - Please provide the contours so we can address run-off
 - If the existing deck is not useable, what is the impact to disturbance of the steep slope?
 - Please describe plan to manage runoff from the house
- Hergert (Elite Automotive) – 254 Route 206 – Block 216, Lot 3.04 – Lisa was recused from discussion on this application. EC reviewed the application and would like to visit the site to inspect the property. Helene and Jim will visit on Friday. The application will be reviewed again at the June meeting.

Training:

May 14th NJUCF Webinar 1-3:30pm (Integrated Pest Management for Community Trees)

June 10th NJUCF Webinar 1-2:15pm (Planning in the Wildland-Urban Interface)

June 2nd – NJ Strike Team Invasive Species 1st Annual Community Conference – Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge from 1-5pm. Katie and Helene would like to participate. Motion was made by James, seconded by Lisa to pay \$20 per person registration fees for Katie and Helene to participate.

Expenditures and Budget:

Balance of \$2,140 remains.

Other:

Twp Wide Garage Sale – June 1st and 2nd

Kids Try Harder Triathlon – June 22nd

Next meeting is scheduled for June 27th.

Motion was made to adjourn at 8:55pm by Katie, seconded by Jim.