

Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission Agenda

February 20th, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

In compliance with the “Open Public Meetings Act”, notice has been given that the Lebanon Township Environmental and Open Space Commission conducts its regular business meetings on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 PM in the main meeting room of the municipal building. Notice of this meeting was published in the Hunterdon County Democrat and the monthly agendas are posted on the bulletin board of the municipal building.

STANDARD AGENDA

Topic	Intent/Materials	Time
Kickoff, Roll Call & Connecting Moment (Adam Duckworth)	Call meeting to order and record attendance.	15 Min
Presentation of Minutes (Adam Duckworth)	Review and approval of January Meeting Minutes. The following people are approving minutes based on their attendance at the last meeting: Petzinger, Duckworth, Henriksen, Hardy, Koch, Mickley and Lawler.	5 Min
General Admin (Adam Duckworth)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard Work for Wetlands LOI Response • Adopt a road for Litter Cleanup • Nancy to provide prior list of properties she had proposed to Township Committee • Easter Egg Hunt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 4000 plastic eggs → 1500 biodegradable eggs • ANJEC Grants for Open Space Stewardship Projects due April 7th (\$1500) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Adam will prepare draft grant application for review 	10 Min
Newsletter	<p>Summer newsletter deadline is May 1st. Articles on the docket include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Litter Cleanup Success Story (Maria Naccarato) • Fire Risk Reduction – Brush/Forest (Erik Henriksen w/LTFD) <p>Backlog:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proper Use of Pesticides and Herbicides (target Summer 2016) • Organic Methods • Invasive Species 	10 Min
Reports	<p>Provide updates on the following standard topics below; see pre-submitted updates in Attachment 1.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EOSC Budget (Duckworth) • Planning Board (Duckworth) • Highlands Act (Duckworth) • Musconetcong Watershed Association (Henriksen) • Raritan Headwaters Association (Lawler) • Sustainable Jersey (Duckworth) 	15 Min

Topic	Intent/Materials	Time
Correspondence	<p>Acknowledge and share any formal correspondence received by EOSC chair or informal correspondence received by EOSC members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keller & Kirkpatrick, Inc. (16-Dec-2016) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Legal notice of application for General Permit 10B to the NJ DEP; the permit is to establish the boundary of freshwater wetlands for bridge replacement on CR513 over Hickory Run • Jeff Tareila Environmental Consulting – 29-Dec-2016 – Block 61, Lot 37 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Freshwater Wetlands LOI ○ Margaret Dutkowski, 240 Mt. Airy Rd 	5 Min
Portfolio Review	<p>Project Leads to provide status report and next steps for active and upcoming projects. Pre-submitted updates are requested prior to the meeting and included as part of the agenda to help ensure a timely meeting; see Attachment 2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy Gold (Pepperman) • Open Space and Preserved Property Mapping (Duckworth) • Bunnvale Grant (Hardy) • Farm Passport Challenge (Duckworth) • Goracy Trail (Hardy) • Memorial Park Bio-Blitz • Recycling Actions (Mickley) • NJ Water Supply Property Agreement Refresh (Mickley) 	Offline
Miscellaneous	<p>Introduce for discussion any special topics outside of the standard agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hunterdon Land Trust Correspondence/Miquin Woods Property 	15 Min
Executive Session	<p>At this time, the EOSC will enter Executive Session via a motion approved by a majority of EOSC members and minimally representing a quorum to discuss the assessment and potential acquisition of land in support of trail connectivity within the Township.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hagedorn to Voorhees Link (Duckworth) • Teetertown to Columbia Trail Link (Koch) • Memorial Park to Hagedorn Link (Mickley) • Miquin to Memorial Park (Hardy) 	60 Min

Attachment 1 – Reports: Pre-submitted Updates

EOSC Budget (Duckworth)

No update submitted prior to the meeting.

Planning Board (Duckworth)

As per Mr. Duckworth on 20-Feb-2017, he attended the last Planning Board meeting on 07-Feb-2017 where Committeeman Schmidt presented to the Planning Board the proposal to submit a Green Acres application in support of property acquisition associated with the Teetertown to Point Mountain Link project. While there were two members of the audience who shared concerns about large-scale property acquisition, the Planning Board members were generally very supportive of the project and did agree to write a letter of support to accompany the application. The letter of support was submitted as part of the Green Acres application submitted by Committeeman Schmidt on 14-Feb-2017.

Highlands Act (Duckworth)

No update submitted prior to the meeting.

Musconetcong Watershed Association (Henriksen)

As per Mr. Henriksen on 20-Feb-2017, the only update is that the Musconetcong River Management Council is meeting on Tuesday evening, 21-Feb-2017.

Raritan Headwaters Association (Lawler)

No update submitted prior to the meeting.

Sustainable Jersey (Duckworth)

No update submitted prior to the meeting.

Attachment 2 – Projects: Pre-submitted Updates

Energy Gold

No update submitted prior to the meeting.

Open Space and Preserved Property Mapping

As per Mr. Duckworth on 20-Feb-2017, coordination of a meeting with Mr. William Millette, a county planner, is in progress. Some additional mapping of existing preservation properties still needs to be completed to explore some minor discrepancies between various data sources but the current map is sufficiently accurate to enable the trail connectivity assessment work that started after the last meeting.

Bunnvale Grant

As per Ms. Hardy on 19-Feb-2017 there have still been no decisions made on the 319 Grants.

Farm Passport Challenge

As per Mr. Duckworth on 20-Feb-2017, due to low participation rates during the prior two years and with open space acquisition assessment activities gaining momentum, the Farm Passport Challenge will not be held in 2017.

Goracy Trail

As per Ms. Hardy on 19-Feb-2017, Norm Goldberg was approved as the appraiser for the Goracy Trail Connectivity project. This information was passed on to the property landowner Vi Giaquinto. We are currently awaiting the completion of the appraisal, which may be available later this week.

Memorial Park Bio-Blitz

None submitted.

Recycling Actions

No update submitted prior to the meeting.

NJ Water Supply Property Agreement Refresh

As per Mr. Duckworth on 20-Feb-2017, Mr. Mickley shared the draft amended management and maintenance agreement for our review. The agreement covers properties owned jointly with the NJ Water Supply Authority (NJWSA).

Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission Minutes

February 20th, 2017

ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order with a quorum at: 7:04 PM. In addition to EOSC members, Township Committeeman Schmidt was in attendance. There was one additional individual present in the audience.

EOSC Member	Role	Attendance
Adam Duckworth	Chairman, Planning Board Liaison	X
Sharon Petzinger	Member	X
Warren Newman	Member	X
Erik Jan Henriksen	Member	X
Nancy Lawler	Member	X
Deb Goodsite	Member	No
Adam Mickley	Member	X
Sharon Hardy	Alternate 1	X
Kathy Koch	Alternate 2	X

STANDARD AGENDA

Topic	Intent/Materials
Kickoff, Roll Call & Connecting Moment (Adam Duckworth)	Call meeting to order and record attendance.
Presentation of Minutes (Adam Duckworth)	<p>Review and approval of January Meeting Minutes. The following people are approving minutes based on their attendance at the last meeting: Petzinger, Duckworth, Henriksen, Hardy, Koch, Mickley and Lawler.</p> <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth asked for a motion to approve Meeting Minutes from January. Ms. Petzinger made the motion, Ms. Lawler seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.</p>

Topic	Intent/Materials
<p>General Admin (Adam Duckworth)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard Work for Wetlands LOI Response • Adopt a road for Litter Cleanup • Nancy to provide prior list of properties she had proposed to Township Committee • Easter Egg Hunt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 4000 plastic eggs → 1500 biodegradable eggs • ANJEC Grants for Open Space Stewardship Projects due April 7th (\$1500) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Adam will prepare draft grant application for review <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth asked Ms. Petzinger if the standard work for evaluating Wetlands LOI letters had been created yet. Ms. Petzinger said not yet but she would prior to the next meeting.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth stated that the litter cleanup program is underway with Ms. Maria Naccarato leading it. He asked each EOSC member which roads each would like to adopt this year. All members said they would adopt the same roads as last year except for Ms. Lawler who indicated she would adopt from her house to the Green Acres parking on Mt. Top road.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth asked Ms. Lawler if she had shared the list of properties that had been previously proposed for open space evaluation. She stated she had not yet but will do so before the next meeting.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth stated that the Recreation Committee is moving forward with a recommendation from the EOSC to convert to biodegradable eggs and has also decided to reduce the total number of eggs used for the event.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth stated he had not yet prepared the ANJEC grant application but will do so before the next meeting.</p>
<p>Newsletter</p>	<p>Summer newsletter deadline is May 1st. Articles on the docket include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Litter Cleanup Success Story (Maria Naccarato) • Fire Risk Reduction – Brush/Forest (Erik Henriksen w/LTFD) <p>Backlog:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proper Use of Pesticides and Herbicides (target Summer 2016) • Organic Methods • Invasive Species

Topic	Intent/Materials
Reports	<p>Provide updates on the following standard topics below; see pre-submitted updates in Attachment 1.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EOSC Budget (Duckworth) • Planning Board (Duckworth) • Highlands Act (Duckworth) • Musconetcong Watershed Association (Henriksen) • Raritan Headwaters Association (Lawler) • Sustainable Jersey (Duckworth) <p>Minutes: Ms. Koch asked about the audience comments as indicated in the pre-submitted update. Mr. Duckworth shared the details of one comment which questioned the rationale for preserving a piece of property that is already limited by the Highlands Act. Ms. Lawler stated that we don't do a good job of educating residents on how the Green Acres program works; residents don't understand the mechanics and that it's the Township's own money that we are asking for. Mr. Schmidt restated a comment from the meeting that the Highlands Act has basically stopped building so why buy it. Ms. Lawler stated that there are still things that can be done on property even if you can't develop it. Mr. Duckworth also stated the Highlands Act can change so it is still worthwhile to preserve parcels. Ms. Lawler suggested we have a one-pager on the different types of preservation to educate residents. Mr. Duckworth acknowledged this was a good idea for future consideration but no actions were assigned. Ms. Lawler stated there is an upcoming Land Preservation Rally and will share the link.</p>
Correspondence	<p>Acknowledge and share any formal correspondence received by EOSC chair or informal correspondence received by EOSC members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keller & Kirkpatrick, Inc. (16-Dec-2016) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Legal notice of application for General Permit 10B to the NJ DEP; the permit is to establish the boundary of freshwater wetlands for bridge replacement on CR513 over Hickory Run • Jeff Tareila Environmental Consulting – 29-Dec-2016 – Block 61, Lot 37 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Freshwater Wetlands LOI ○ Margaret Dutkowski, 240 Mt. Airy Rd <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth shared the two correspondences received above and Ms. Petzinger agreed to review these to determine if any action was required.</p>
Portfolio Review	<p>Project Leads to provide status report and next steps for active and upcoming projects. Pre-submitted updates are requested prior to the meeting and included as part of the agenda to help ensure a timely meeting; see Attachment 2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy Gold (Pepperman) • Open Space and Preserved Property Mapping (Duckworth) • Bunnvale Grant (Hardy) • Farm Passport Challenge (Duckworth) • Goracy Trail (Hardy) • Memorial Park Bio-Blitz • Recycling Actions (Mickley) • NJ Water Supply Property Agreement Refresh (Mickley)

Topic	Intent/Materials
	<p>Minutes: Mr. Mickley asked provided a brief overview of progress since the last meeting and asked for any input from the team. Mr. Schmidt stated that signage requirements of “funded by EIFP” should only be if applicable and asked if they would also want to reference NJWSA. Mr. Mickley noted the question. Mr. Duckworth asked about signage approval requirements and Mr. Mickley stated road signage would be approved but other signage is at our discretion. Mr. Schmidt suggested we clarify “eligible party” in the clause about ownership transfer.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth asked for a motion to initiate review of the NJWSA Maintenance and Management Agreement with Township Committee subsequent to clarification with NJWSA on the items raised during the meeting. Ms. Lawler made the motion, Mr. Henriksen seconded and it was unanimously approved.</p>
Miscellaneous	<p>Introduce for discussion any special topics outside of the standard agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hunterdon Land Trust Correspondence/Miquin Woods Property <p>Minutes: Mr. Schmidt stated that Hunterdon Land Trust was approached regarding the purchase of a 19-acre parcel neighboring Miquin Woods (B36 L36). The team discussed the preservation value of the parcel and determined it to be low value as it is already land-locked, would not create trail connectivity opportunities nor preserve any habitat of special importance. Team consensus was that we would support Hunterdon Land Trust or the County acquiring the parcel and perhaps contribute some nominal funding if that would facilitate the process but no more than that.</p>
Executive Session	<p>At this time, the EOSC will enter Executive Session via a motion approved by a majority of EOSC members and minimally representing a quorum to discuss the assessment and potential acquisition of land in support of trail connectivity within the Township.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hagedorn to Voorhees Link (Duckworth) • Teetertown to Columbia Trail Link (Koch) • Memorial Park to Hagedorn Link (Mickley) • Miquin to Memorial Park (Hardy) <p>Minutes: A motion to enter Executive Session to discuss open space acquisition targets for improved trail connectivity was made by Mr. Henriksen, seconded by Ms. Lawler and unanimously approved.</p> <p>EOSC exited Executive Session at 9:20 and followed with a motion made by Mr. Henriksen to adjourn. Ms. Koch seconded and unanimously approved.</p>