

Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission

Agenda

March 4th, 2019

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 first 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.

AGENDA

Topic	Intent/Materials
Kickoff, Roll Call & Connecting Moment	Call meeting to order and take roll call.
Presentation of Minutes	Review and approval of February Meeting Minutes. All commission members can approve except for Mr. Newman, Mr. Mickley and Mr. Collett who were not present at the February meeting.
Old Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Red Mill Race Preserve Sign (Henriksen)b) Green Acres Grant (Schmidt)c) Sustainable Jersey Bronze Certification (Collett)
New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Lebanon Township Museum Collaboration (Hardy, Sampaio)b) Tewksbury Deer Management Ordinance (Hardy)
Newsletter	Summer newsletter deadline is May 1 st . Articles on the docket include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recycling Best Practices (Laul)• Tick Article (Petzinger)
Correspondence	Acknowledge and share any formal correspondence received by EOSC chair or informal correspondence received by EOSC members. All correspondence when possible is scanned and stored digitally in a public access Google Drive folder at https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B14m3wFylheUWjBjNEkwaU4TGc . <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None

Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission

Minutes

March 4th, 2019

ROLL CALL

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	No
Sharon Hardy	Member	X
Adam Mickley	Member	No
Kathy Koch	Alternate 1	No
Marty Collett	Alternate 2	X

MEETING MINUTES

Topic	Intent/Materials
Kickoff, Roll Call & Connecting Moment	<p>Call meeting to order and take roll call.</p> <p>Minutes: The meeting was called to order at 7:05PM. In addition to the EOSC members mentioned above, Mayor Schmidt and Museum Curator, Gina Sampaio, were in attendance.</p>
Presentation of Minutes	<p>Review and approval of February Meeting Minutes. All commission members can approve except for Mr. Newman, Mr. Mickley and Mr. Collett who were not present at the February meeting.</p> <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth asked if there were any comments on the proposed Meeting Minutes from February. There were none. A motion was made by Mr. Henriksen, seconded by Ms. Petzinger and unanimously approved.</p>
Old Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) Red Mill Race Preserve Sign (Henriksen) e) Green Acres Grant (Schmidt) f) Sustainable Jersey Bronze Certification (Collett) <p>Minutes: Mr. Henriksen provided an update on the engraving of the mill stone to create the Red Mill Race sign. He has learned that the stone surface is too uneven to allow for an acceptable engraving. Mr. Newman suggested attaching a brass plaque to the mill stone. Mr. Henriksen will explore this and other options.</p> <p>Moving on to the Green Acres Grant agenda topic, Mayor Schmidt stated it is due on March 30th. We would be applying for a Planning Incentive Grant since we already have an open grant with Green Acres. Ideally, as part of the application we would demonstrate that we have ongoing open space preservation conversations with land owners. Mayor Schmidt noted that the Highlands Council is working harder on wastewater management initiatives in our area. They are encouraging us to take open lots off the market to reduce septic density. Mayor Schmidt suggested the EOSC develop a motion to support the Township's application and stated that he expects the Township will request about \$200K.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth introduced the following motion:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Whereas the EOSC participated in the drafting of, and supports the goals of, the Township of Lebanon Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) of 2018, and</i></p>

Topic	Intent/Materials
	<p><i>Whereas the OSRP specifically identifies numerous parcels of land as Preservation Priorities in the Township of Lebanon, and</i></p> <p><i>Whereas the criteria for the Preservation Priorities include passive recreation benefits, both on the target properties and for connectivity between existing preserved lands, as well as preservation of wildlife habitat, drinking water resources, and scenic vistas, and</i></p> <p><i>Whereas the NJDEP has encouraged Lebanon Township to increase its land preservation activities as part of its Waste Water Management planning, and</i></p> <p><i>Whereas the Township of Lebanon has ongoing dialogue with potentially interested sellers of properties identified as Preservation Priorities.</i></p> <p><i>The Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission (EOSC) makes a motion to endorse the Township of Lebanon 2019 application for funding of its Green Acres Planning Incentive Grant.</i></p> <p>Mr. Duckworth asked if there were any comments. There were none and the team acknowledged their support for the grant application. Mr. Newman made the motion, Mr. Collett seconded, and it was unanimously approved, with Ms. Petzinger abstaining.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth asked if Mayor Schmidt would need any other support for the application. Mayor Schmidt stated he would be reaching out over the course of the next couple of weeks.</p> <p>Moving on to the topic of Sustainable Jersey (SJ), Mr. Collett stated that he used the tools on the SJ website to identify actions that would be applicable and easiest for our Township to complete. He said that it will be very difficult to complete the work in time for this year's submission deadline and suspects we would not be able to achieve certification until 2020. He suggested we should carefully consider if it is worthwhile for us to pursue the certification. Is it worth it for us and does it really mean we would be applicable for additional grant money? Mr. Duckworth suggested that we should at least pursue bronze certification to give us some experience with the framework and then decide if we want to pursue further. Mr. Collett reminded the team that actions do expire and it is more than a one-time effort. Mr. Duckworth then suggested that the team evaluate the few critical actions for bronze certification and renewal requirements to determine that amount of effort and then decide on whether or not to pursue the certification. Mr. Collett and Mr. Duckworth will meet to review the actions more closely.</p>
<p>New Business</p>	<p>c) Lebanon Township Museum Collaboration (Hardy, Sampaio) d) Tewksbury Deer Management Ordinance (Hardy)</p> <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth moved the team on to new business, handing the floor to Ms. Sampaio. Ms. Sampaio introduced herself as the head curator of the Township Museum and introduced the Assistance Curator, Bill Honachefsky, who was not present at the meeting. She stated that she and Mr. Honachefsky were interested in collaborations with the EOSC, either to make the museum greener or use the museum as a venue to facilitate environmental activities.</p> <p>Ms. Sampaio had spoken to Ms. Hardy about partnering with the EOSC on a potential event for Mother's Day, linking to "Mother Earth". She shared an idea for children to create a bee habitat out of bamboo that could be used as a present for their mothers, but also noted she was open to other ideas. She stated she was connecting with the Environmental Club at the high school to participate, as well. She suggested a date of May 11th. Mr. Collett, Mr. Duckworth and Ms. Hardy all expressed an interesting in partnering for this event and agreed to follow up with Ms. Sampaio after the meeting.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth thanked Ms. Sampaio and handed the floor to Ms. Hardy to discuss the Tewksbury Deer Management ordinance. Ms. Hardy stated she came across an ordinance recently approved by Tewksbury Township regarding a deer hunting program and she felt it was very well written and that it could serve as a model ordinance for our Township. Mr. Duckworth</p>

Topic	Intent/Materials
	<p>liked the fact that it provided priority status to residents and employees and felt it would help build additional support for open space preservation efforts. He stated that he did not think it would really help with deer management since it would only be perhaps 12 hunters taking 24 deer annually. Ms. Petzinger stated that that would actually have an impact on deer populations and there was an opportunity to tweak the ordinance to make it more applicable for the that purpose.</p> <p>Ms. Petzinger asked where the permit fees would go? Mayor Schmidt said that this is a very preliminary conversation and that hasn't been determined yet. Mr. Duckworth asked if the Township would require additional insurance. Mayor Schmidt stated that it was unlikely because hunters would be required to secure their own insurance, but that would have to be confirmed.</p> <p>The team took a few actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everyone to review ordinance and provide feedback at the next meeting. • Mr. Duckworth to follow up with some local hunters for their input. • Mr. Duckworth to reach out to Tewksbury EOSC to get any additional background
Newsletter	<p>Summer newsletter deadline is May 1st. Articles on the docket include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling Best Practices (Laul) • Tick Article (Petzinger) <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth reminded the team of the next newsletter deadline. Ms. Petzinger confirmed she would write the article about ticks.</p>
Correspondence	<p>Acknowledge and share any formal correspondence received by EOSC chair or informal correspondence received by EOSC members. All correspondence when possible is scanned and stored digitally in a public access Google Drive folder at https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B14m3wFylheUWjBjNEkwaU4TGc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSE&G – Application for a Flood Hazard Area Individual Permit for the Maintenance of Existing PSE&G Natural Gas Transmission System Rights-of-Way to Permit Selective Herbicide Application within Riparian Zones <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth stated only one communication was received and provided it to Ms. Petzinger who would review it and raise any concerns if necessary.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth then closed the formal agenda and asked if there were any other topics people wanted to raise. Ms. Hardy stated she mentioned to the Rachels, who own land that neighbors Red Mill Race Preserve, about selling the property. She also mentioned that she followed up with Vi regarding the Goracy acquisition and she is still committed to working with the Township. Ms. Petzinger reminded the team that the Northwest New Jersey Rivers conference is on March 30th.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35PM. The motion was made by Mr. Newman, seconded by Ms. Petzinger and unanimously approved.</p>