

Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission Agenda

March 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 February Meeting Minutes, both Regular and Executive Sessions. The following people are approving minutes based on their attendance at the last meeting: Petzinger, Duckworth, Newman, Henriksen, Hardy, Koch, Mickley and Lawler.	10 Min
General Admin (Adam Duckworth)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard Work for Wetlands LOI Response • Litter Cleanup – Bag Handout & Road Confirmation • Volunteer Picnic (Saturday, 6/10) • Califon to Host Emerald Ash Borer Presentation (3/29) – Sharon P. Note • RHA Litter Cleanup Donation of Clean Communities Money • Land Preservation Rally (link to have been shared by Ms. Lawler) • 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 • Amzie Clawson Eagle Scout Project Update 	20 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 	5 Min

Topic	Intent/Materials	Time
Reports	Provide updates on the following standard topics below; see pre-submitted updates in Attachment 1 . <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
Correspondence	Acknowledge and share any formal correspondence received by EOSC chair or informal correspondence received by EOSC members. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	5 Min
Focus Topics	A select set of topics that require deeper discussion. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership with the Recreation Committee on the Bee Program • NJWSA Property Agreement Status 	20 Min
Portfolio Review	Project Leads to provide brief status report and overview on next steps for active 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 . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Litter Cleanup (Naccarato) • Well Testing (Lawler) • Energy Gold (Pepperman) • Open Space and Preserved Property Mapping (Duckworth) • Bunnvale Grant (Hardy) • Goracy Trail (Hardy) • Memorial Park Bio-Blitz (To Be Removed) • Recycling Actions (Mickley) • NJ Water Supply Property Agreement Refresh (Mickley) 	20 Min

Attachment 1 – Reports: Pre-submitted Updates

EOSC Budget (Duckworth)

No update submitted prior to the meeting.

Planning Board (Duckworth)

No update submitted prior to the meeting

Highlands Act (Duckworth)

No update submitted prior to the meeting.

Musconetcong Watershed Association (Henriksen)

As per Mr. Henriksen on 20-Mar-2017, for the Musconetcong River Management Council (MRMC), 1) The NJDEP is in the final process of delineating the flood hazard areas on the Hampton Farms development proposal, based on a potential stream that runs through the middle of the property. 2) We have a major challenge to map the drainage systems coming off Routes 78 & 80 into the Musky. If that information can be put in a manageable form, it may be useful in future spill evaluations. We could advocate for the installation of tanks to hold contaminated storm water so that hazardous material can be removed prior to discharge into the river.

For MWA, 1) Looks like we found a single source for the estimated \$8mil cost of the Warren Glen Dam removal, stay tuned. 2) The board has approved the use of funds to remove the island building, we are applying for matching funds, but either way, it is coming down.

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

No update submitted prior to the meeting.

Bunnvale Grant

As per Ms. Hardy on 06-Mar-2017, our Princeton Hydro consultant alerted us that the 319 (h) grant award decisions have finally been made by the DEP & that our Township Clerk should be receiving a letter indicating the status of our grant. We did recently receive a letter that declined our rain garden grant proposal. The letter said that they were "...not able to extend funding at this time as they received over \$12.5 million in funding requests and only had about \$2.5 million in funds available to support grants." Per our consultant, we may have another opportunity to apply for a 2017 grant & we will keep an eye out for the next RFP which may be released by the DEP shortly. However, the next cycle of RFP's may have a new title such as, "Water Quality Restoration Grants for Non-Point Source Pollution".

Goracy Trail

As per Ms. Hardy on 06-Mar-2017, a Restricted Appraisal was prepared by the Township's Appraiser Norman Goldberg for 55.50 acres that is owned by Vi Giaquinto & located in Lebanon Township at 661 Woodglen Road, Block 36, Lot 17. A copy of the completed Appraisal report was provided to each of the

members of the LT Committee for their review. On March 1, 2017, it was agreed upon by the Twp Committee to offer the landowner Vi Giaquinto, the Appraiser's recommendation of \$4,400 per acre for a total of \$8,800 for the acquisition of up to 2 acres. Per the Appraiser's report, the overall land value estimate for the entire tract was \$5,500 per acre. However, the proposed acquisition area consists of mostly wooded and rocky land that is further constrained with wetlands and flood plain area associated with tributaries to the Spruce Run. In the Appraiser's professional opinion, a .20 discount should be applied to the \$5,500 to reach a proposed Acquisition Value Estimate of \$4,400 per acre. A meeting with the landowner was then scheduled in order to provide her with an original copy of the Appraisal & to discuss the Township's proposed offer of \$4,400 per acre.

Deputy Mayor/Committeeman Mike Schmidt & EOSC member Sharon Hardy met with the landowner Vi Giaquinto the morning of March 6th to discuss the Appraisal & present a proposed offer of \$4,400 per acre for the approximately 2 acres under consideration for purchase by the Township. Vi was very amenable to the Township's offer and agreed to let the Township's acquire exactly 2 acres from her at a price of \$4,400 per a acre for a total purchase price of \$8,800. It was further discussed that the Township's lawyer would draft a purchase contract for her review.

At the appropriate time, we will also need to obtain 3 bid proposals for title search & insurance, 3 bids to hire a land surveyor, and 3 bids for a Phase I Environmental Study. Note that 3 bids are required for each service provided in order for our partner, the NJWSA, to reimburse the Township for 50% of the costs associated with acquiring the land.

Memorial Park Bio-Blitz

No update submitted prior to the meeting.

Recycling Actions

No update submitted prior to the meeting.

NJ Water Supply Property Agreement Refresh

No update submitted prior to the meeting.

Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission Minutes

March 20th, 2017

ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order with a quorum at: 7:03 PM. In addition to EOSC members, Josh Shaffer and Sharon Wander were in attendance in the audience. Mr. Shaffer expressed an interest in volunteering with EOSC and Ms. Wander is the President of the NJ Butterfly Club Chapter of the North American Butterfly Association (NABA) and was invited by EOSC member, Ms. Lawler, to discuss pollinator gardens.

EOSC Member	Role	Attendance
Adam Duckworth	Chairman, Planning Board Liaison	X
Sharon Petzinger	Member	No
Warren Newman	Member	No
Erik Jan Henriksen	Member	X
Nancy Lawler	Member	X
Deb Goodsite	Member	No
Adam Mickley	Member	No
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)	Review and approval of February Meeting Minutes, both Regular and Executive Sessions. The following people are approving minutes based on their attendance at the last meeting: Petzinger, Duckworth, Newman, Henriksen, Hardy, Koch, Mickley and Lawler. Minutes: A motion to approve minutes of the regular February meeting was made by Ms. Lawler, seconded by Ms. Koch and unanimously approved. A motion to approve minutes of the Executive Session of the February meeting was made by Ms. Lawler, seconded by Ms. Koch and unanimously approved.
General Admin (Adam Duckworth)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rescheduling of April Meeting • Standard Work for Wetlands LOI Response • Litter Cleanup – Bag Handout & Road Confirmation • Volunteer Picnic (Saturday, 6/10) • Califon to Host Emerald Ash Borer Presentation (3/29) – Sharon P. Note • RHA Litter Cleanup Donation of Clean Communities Money • Land Preservation Rally (link to have been shared by Ms. Lawler)

Topic	Intent/Materials
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • Amzie Clawson Eagle Scout Project Update <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth asked the team if it would be OK to reschedule the April meeting from April 17th to April 24th due to the school holiday and his unavailability. Ms. Koch stated she would also not be able to attend on the 17th. The team agreed to move the meeting and Mr. Duckworth took the action to reschedule.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth distributed bags and gloves to those in attendance for the litter cleanup. He reviewed the assigned roads with those present. Mr. Henriksen stated that he would also do Butler Park Rd. since that is within his scope for the MWA river cleanup.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth stated that the Township Volunteer Picnic will be June 10th and expressed his hope that all would consider attending. Ms. Lawler stated she would be traveling at this time and would not be able to attend.</p> <p>Ms. Lawler stated that the Township has traditionally given “Clean Communities” money to the two watershed associations, Musconetcong Watershed Association (MWA) and Raritan Headwaters Association (RHA). The amount has been for \$300 each. Mr. Duckworth said he would talk to Mr. Newman, the past EOSC chair, to better understand what EOSC had done in the past and the approved uses for Clean Communities funding. Ms. Lawler stated that Clean Communities is money made available from the state through the county. Ms. Lawler stated that Mayor Laul is familiar with the approved uses for Clean Communities and would be a good contact.</p> <p>Ms. Lawler stated that the “Land Rally” was this past Friday and said it is an event similar to that of the ANJEC Environmental Congress.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth stated that he spoke with Amzie Clawson and that Mr. Clawson was concerned about the timing for completion of the project and is pursuing another opportunity. Mr. Duckworth stated that Mr. Clawson would contact EOSC if that other opportunity did not pan out and revisit the proposed project of Goracy trail improvements.</p>
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 <p>Minutes: Mr. Henriksen said he has not heard back from the fire chief and raised concern about the guidance for reducing fire risk for a residence, saying part of the guidance is to remove trees and vegetation near a home. This is not necessarily a message the EOSC is comfortable sponsoring. Mr. Henriksen suggested we not pursue the <i>Fire Risk Reduction</i> article and said he would come up with an alternative article.</p>

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: Mr. Duckworth stated he had not been able to attend the prior Planning Board meeting but reviewed the minutes and there was nothing pertinent to EOSC. Ms. Hardy mentioned she did attend and shared some information regarding the proposal to install cellular nodes on telephone poles primarily along Rt. 513.</p> <p>Ms. Hardy also stated that there is a public hearing for Point Mountain bridge coming up on April 19th in Mansfield from 6-7:30PM. Mr. Henriksen will attend and Ms. Lawler will likely be there, as well. Questions from the Commission included whether fishing access would be maintained and whether additional parking for cars would be a consideration. Some new signage would be desired, as well.</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"> • None <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth stated he had received no communications and asked the Commission if others had. None had.</p>
Focus Topics	<p>A select set of topics that require deeper discussion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership with the Recreation Committee on the Bee Program • NJWSA Property Agreement Status <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth provided an overview of the <i>The Biggest Little Pollinator Fair</i> sponsored by the Recreation Commission. He stated that there was an interest in having EOSC contribute to the event with an activity, such as providing plants that can be taken home by the children in attendance. Ms. Lawler stated that the MWA is open to helping us secure native plants, however, the wholesale price for native plants that the MWA receives for their plant sale is \$6 and this would not be cost effective. Ms. Wander stated that Prairie Moon Nursery sells plugs at a cost of 38 for \$99.</p> <p>Ms. Wander cautioned that the European Honey Bee is not a native species and that most pollinator programs are focused on native species. However, there is no difference in the plants that would be important to those different species. Ms. Lawler highlighted the importance of promoting gardening with native plants and suggested Commission members visit Karen Nash Memorial Garden in Washington as a great example of a pollinator garden. Ms. Wander stated that maintenance must be an important consideration in establishing a pollinator garden; even meadows have to be maintained. She also stated that pollinators are</p>

Topic	Intent/Materials
	<p>attracted to groups of things and a garden should of sufficient size to capture their attention. She said any mint is great for bees and the deer don't eat it. She also recommended milkweeds. Ms. Hardy cautioned that milkweeds are terrible for farmers and poisonous to some animals. Ms. Wander stated that Wild Bergamot is available at Pinelands Nursery and this nursery is also option for plugs. She noted that Prairie Moon plugs are 5" deep.</p> <p>It was suggested that the workshop would be a great opportunity to seek volunteers for a Memorial Park Pollinator Garden. Ms. Wander said she would be willing to come look at the proposed site after further discussions with the Parks Committee.</p> <p>Ms. Lawler suggested EOSC use the fair as an opportunity to promote best practices in lawn care.</p> <p>Mr. Mickley was not present to discuss the NJWSA Property Agreement.</p>
<p>Portfolio Review</p>	<p>Project Leads to provide brief status report and overview on next steps for active 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"> • Litter Cleanup (Naccarato) • Well Testing (Lawler) • Energy Gold (Pepperman) • Open Space and Preserved Property Mapping (Duckworth) • Bunnvale Grant (Hardy) • Goracy Trail (Hardy) • Memorial Park Bio-Blitz (To Be Removed) • Recycling Actions (Mickley) • NJ Water Supply Property Agreement Refresh (Mickley) <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth stated pre-submitted project updates were provided in the the agenda and asked the Commission to review those at this time.</p> <p>Ms. Koch stated that RHA is having an event called Boots and Barbeque.</p> <p>It was highlighted by one Commission member that a talk was being given at the Asbury Coffee Mill on Friday evening.</p> <p>A motion to adjourn at 8:58PM was made by Mr. Henriksen, seconded by Ms. Lawler and unanimously approved.</p>