

Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission

Agenda

September 10th, 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 is conducting this regular business meeting on September 10th 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 August Meeting Minutes. All commission members can approve except for Ms. Petzinger who was not present at the August meeting.
Old Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Lebanon Township Deer Management Ordinance (Chen)b) LT water quality sampling plan (Duckworth)c) Miquin-Goracy Link update (Hardy)d) LT open space boundary signage (Duckworth)e) State Forest Action Plan (Duckworth)
New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Open space preservation interest<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Bill Bohn, 625 Woodglen Road, Block 36 Lot 10 (Attachment 1)
Newsletter	<p>Fall newsletter deadline was August 1st. No articles submitted.</p> <p>Winter newsletter deadline is November 1st. Articles on the docket include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2019 EOSC Year in Review (Duckworth)
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=0B14m3wFylheUWjBjNEkwalU4TGc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None

Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission

Minutes

September 10th, 2019

ROLL CALL

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
Sharon Hardy	Member	X
Kathy Koch	Member	X
Marty Collett	Alternate 1	X
Mike Chen	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: Mr. Duckworth called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm. In addition to the EOSC members mentioned above, Committeeman Laul and Mayor Schmidt were present. Also in the audience was Mr. Bill Bohn of 625 Woodglen Road.</p>
Presentation of Minutes	<p>Review and approval of August Meeting Minutes. All commission members can approve except for Ms. Petzinger who was not present at the August meeting.</p> <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth asked if there were any comments on the August Meeting Minutes. There were none. A motion was made to approve the Minutes by Mr. Henriksen, seconded by Ms. Koch and unanimously approved.</p>
Old Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> f) Lebanon Township Deer Management Ordinance (Chen) g) LT water quality sampling plan (Duckworth) h) Miquin-Goracy Link update (Hardy) i) LT open space boundary signage (Duckworth) j) State Forest Action Plan (Duckworth) <p>Minutes: Before addressing old business, Mr. Duckworth acknowledged Mr. Bohn in the audience. Mr. Duckworth stated that Mr. Bohn had reached out to him to better understand preservation options for a piece of property he owns at 625 Woodglen Road – Block 36, Lot 10. Mr. Duckworth referred the team to Attachment 1, which provided a snapshot of the parcel. Mr. Duckworth stated that he discussed options with Mr. Bohn over the phone including conservation easements and outright purchases, which could be orchestrated by a variety of organizations.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth stated that the property in question is identified as a preservation priority in the Township Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP). He also stated that he told Mr. Bohn that while the EOSC would be happy to provide as much information as we have with respect to this matter in as objective a way as possible, he of course should consult an independent advisor before making any decisions. He asked Mr. Bohn to introduce himself and provide any additional background that he wishes.</p> <p>Mr. Bohn stated that he was simply exploring options as he develops his long-range retirement plans. He was very interested to understand the potential value of a preservation transaction,</p>

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	<p>either easement or purchase. Commission members asked several questions about the location and makeup of the property. Mayor Schmidt provided some information about how valuation would be determined, including whether the lot would have been approved for subdivision prior to 2004 when the Highlands Act was put in place. The Commission agreed the property was interesting due to the potential presence of wetlands and its value for connectivity. Mayor Schmidt stated that the first step would be to complete a pre-appraisal questionnaire, which would answer a lot of questions being discussed. Ms. Lawler suggested we summarize this information for Mr. Bohn and send it to him after the meeting. Mr. Duckworth agreed.</p> <p>Ms. Lawler stated that it might be beneficial for the EOSC to create some materials for landowners who might want to understand preservation options. She said that Bethlehem Township hosted an event for landowners to learn about these options and that we should consider doing something similar. She thought that it might have been ANJEC that had facilitated that event. Mayor Schmidt said that we should know whether we receive the Green Acres grant by the end of the year and that if we do get that grant then that would be a great time for us to host an event like that. Ms. Lawler stated that we should come up with a list of what we're looking for in a preservation opportunity. Perhaps we can invite the Hunterdon Land Trust to come talk to us about how to communicate to landowners.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth moved the team on to old business. He asked Mr. Chen to provide the team an update on the deer management ordinance. Mr. Chen stated that he, Mr. Duckworth and Mr. Zemlachenko from NJWSA attended the Township Committee meeting on 21-Aug-2019 when the ordinance was first introduced. There were some questions from Committee members, but all were supportive, and a motion was made for the Township lawyer to draft our ordinance.</p> <p>Mayor Schmidt said that the draft ordinance was approved by Township Committee on September 4th to go to public hearing. It should be on the agenda for public hearing on September 18th. Mr. Duckworth asked what the next steps were and what Township Committee was expecting from EOSC. Committeeman Laul said that he was looking to us to define the elements of the program which would be documented in the resolution. We should use the model resolution that Ms. Hardy shared as a guide. Mr. Duckworth asked if anyone was working on the other items we would need, like the permit application form, etc. Mayor Schmidt said no and that it would be great if EOSC would do that. He also said that we need to identify an appropriate time to initiate the program this year. Consider aligning it with an appropriate hunting season.</p> <p>Mr. Henriksen made a motion to form a sub-committee of Ms. Lawler, Mr. Chen and Mr. Duckworth to define the elements of a controlled hunting program and prepare the necessary materials for the Township lawyer to draft a resolution defining the program. Mr. Collett seconded, and all approved except for Ms. Koch who abstained. Ms. Lawler stated that we should document our approach and present this at various venues as this could be a good model for other municipalities.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth then recapped the discussion that the team had at the previous EOSC meeting regarding a water sampling plan. Mayor Schmidt stated that our Clean Communities Coordinator, Joann Fascinelli, has confirmed that Clean Communities funding cannot be used for this purpose. Mr. Duckworth reconfirmed with the team that there was still an interest in inviting our water quality partners to a future meeting to discuss our ideas and suggested a sub-committee be formed to facilitate this. Ms. Lawler confirmed she is available for the October meeting and would be interested in being part of the sub-committee. Mr. Duckworth asked for a motion to establish a sub-committee of Ms. Lawler, Mr. Henriksen and Mr. Duckworth to prepare for a future discussion with water quality partners on a Township water sampling plan. The motion was made by Ms. Koch, seconded by Mr. Henriksen and unanimously approved.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth then recognized Ms. Hardy who provided an update on the Miquin-Goracy Link project. Ms. Hardy stated that the landowner is expected to sign the contract this week. Mayor Schmidt suggested EOSC consider a motion to demonstrate continued support of the acquisition since it has been ongoing for so long.</p> <p>Ms. Lawler made a motion to reconfirm support of the preservation acquisition of landowner, Vi</p>

Topic	Intent/Materials
	<p>Giaquinto, as per the existing terms originally proposed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Henriksen and unanimously approved. Mayor Schmidt did note the landowner had one condition she wished to document in the contract, which is for the Township to post “no trespassing” signs along the property border. The team was fine with this. Ms. Lawler asked how long it would be until closing. Committeeman Laul said that we still need to do a survey, but it could be before end of year.</p> <p>Moving on to the next agenda item. Mr. Duckworth asked Committeeman Laul how the invoice approval process would work for the purchase of the property border signs, which is expected to be ~\$700. Committeeman Laul said he would be able to sign off since it is less than \$1000. Mr. Duckworth said he would provide it for approval by next Wednesday.</p> <p>Moving on to the next agenda item, Mr. Duckworth stated that Ms. Petzinger had submitted the State Forest Action Plan survey on behalf of EOSC.</p>
New Business	<p>b) Open space preservation interest</p> <p>a. Bill Bohn, 625 Woodglen Road, Block 36 Lot 10 (Attachment 1)</p> <p>Minutes: This topic was discussed at the beginning of the meeting and documented above.</p>
Newsletter	<p>Fall newsletter deadline was August 1st. No articles submitted.</p> <p>Winter newsletter deadline is November 1st. Articles on the docket include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2019 EOSC Year in Review (Duckworth) • Well testing (Koch) <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth acknowledged the two planned articles for the winter newsletter and asked if there was interest from anyone to write an article? There was none.</p>

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<p>Correspondence</p>	<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=0B14m3wFylheUWjBjNEkwalU4TGc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth stated he had received no correspondence to share and asked if anyone else had. There was none. He proceeded around the table asking each member if there were any other topics to share.</p> <p>Committeeman Laul stated that he confirmed the “Vargas property” is not Township-owned; it is still owned by the state.</p> <p>Ms. Koch provided an overview on the preservation of the Daniel Seal house being pursued by the Historians Committee. The house is at the back of Voorhees High School and was built in 1803. The school seems amenable to selling the house and property to the Township. Ms. Koch said she just wanted to provide an update to the EOSC. Committeeman Laul said he had a vision of making the house and trails more accessible to boy scouts and girl scouts.</p> <p>Ms. Hardy raised a concern about the Spotted Lantern Fly. She said she had an inquiry from Dave Overaker who identified the invasive insect on his property in the Township and was seeking advice on what to do about it. Ms. Koch said she had contacted Rutgers Cooperative Extension and their advice was to squash them. Ms. Hardy stated that we do have good information on our website. Mr. Duckworth suggested she reach out to Ms. Hardy to seek her advice and consider writing a newsletter article about it. Perhaps Ms. Hardy can also confirm that our website has the right information. Ms. Hardy said she would do that.</p> <p>Ms. Lawler stated that representatives from the William Penn Foundation will be taking a tour of our area and will be visiting the Pelio property. Mayor Schmidt will be present at the event in early October.</p> <p>A motion to adjourn at 8:43 pm was made by Mr. Henriksen, seconded by Ms. Koch and unanimously approved.</p>

Attachment 1

