

Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission

Agenda

Feb 7th, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

In compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act", notice has been given that the Lebanon Township Environmental and Open Space Commission hosts its regular meetings on the first Monday of every month at the Lebanon Township Municipal Building. However, this meeting has been rescheduled due to Township reorganization. Notice of this new meeting time was published in the Hunterdon County Democrat.

AGENDA

Topic	Description
Kickoff, Roll Call & Connecting Moment	Call meeting to order and take roll call.
Presentation of Minutes	None
Old Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forest management planning (Lawler, Petzinger)
New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None
Correspondence	None received.
Recent and Upcoming Events	07-Feb-2022 EOSC Meeting
Open Comment	Open comment from Commission members and public.

Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission

Minutes

Feb 7th, 2022

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	X
Sharon Hardy	Member	X
Kathy Koch	Member	X
Marty Collett	Alternate 1	Regrets
Mike Chen	Alternate 2	Regrets

MEETING MINUTES

Topic	Description
Kickoff, Roll Call & Connecting Moment	Call meeting to order and take roll call. Minutes: Meeting was called to order at 7:05p. In addition to the EOSC members noted above, Committeeman Laul was in attendance as the EOSC liaison to the Township Committee. Note that Ms. Hardy arrived at 7:20p and Ms. Lawler arrived at 7:30p.
Presentation of Minutes	None

Topic	Description
<p>Old Business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest management planning (Lawler, Petzinger) <p>Minutes: Ms. Petzinger provided an update on the Forest Stewardship Planning work. The Highlands Council will provide up to a \$28K non-competitive grant for forest stewardship planning. The work is expected to include a municipal-wide Forest Stewardship Plan with separate plans for each individual open space parcel within scope. One of the benefits of having a plan is that typically individual permits would not be required for work covered under an approved plan. Mr. Newman asked about the scope of a municipal plan and Ms. Petzinger stated that we have the opportunity to define that as no other municipality in NJ is known to have one yet. Ms. Koch noted ESC could be a good pilot if we want to include open space beyond that which is municipally owned. Ms. Petzinger noted the work might include creation of a guidance document for private landowners.</p> <p>Ms. Petzinger stated a first step is to get sample work and resumes from state-approved foresters who would partner with us to write the grant proposal at no cost to the Township. She and Ms. Lawler have reviewed the list of state-approved foresters and recommend the following four from whom to seek sample work and resumes. These were identified based on their ability to work in Hunterdon County, answer questions from the public and handle a project of this scale.</p> <p>Ms. Petzinger and Ms. Lawler drafted the following letter for feedback from the Commission.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“Lebanon Township is looking to retain a state-approved forester to assist the township in creating a municipal forest master plan for some of Lebanon Township’s municipal open space properties as well as forest stewardship plans for one or two municipal open space properties. The Lebanon Township Environmental and Open Space Commission (EOSC) received your name as a state-approved forester who operates in Hunterdon County, has experience developing Forest Stewardship Plans, and might have the capacity and interest in undertaking this project.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Because Lebanon Township is located in the Highland Preservation Area, the municipality is eligible to receive funding from the Highlands Council to create a forest master plan and forest stewardship plans through a non-competitive process, provided a scope of work is submitted. As such, the selected forester will be asked to work with the township administration and EOSC to develop an accurate scope of work to submit to the New Jersey Highlands Council for funding. Once funding is received, the forester would be expected to work with the EOSC, present at public meetings, inventory the properties, and assist with stakeholder and public outreach in order to develop a plan that meets the preserved property goals and public values.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">If you are interested in being considered for this project, please submit an example of a forest stewardship plan that has been completed for a public property by (two weeks from when notice is sent out??) for the EOSC to review.”</p> <p>Discussion ensued. A motion was made by Ms. Koch to support this letter and proceed to submit it to Township Committee for endorsement with copy to NJ Water Supply Authority (NJWSA). It was seconded by Mr. Newman and unanimously approved.</p>
<p>New Business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None <p>Minutes: None.</p>
<p>Correspondence</p>	<p>None received.</p> <p>Minutes: None.</p>
<p>Recent and Upcoming Events</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">07-Mar-2022 EOSC Meeting</p>

Topic	Description
Open Comment	<p>Open comment from Commission members and public.</p> <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth opened the floor to final comments and additional topics. Ms. Lawler stated that Kyle Clonan, from NJWSA, is seeking a Township Representative for Spruce Run watershed restoration work. She will forward the message on to Committeeman Laul.</p> <p>Ms. Koch asked about posting well testing information to the Township website. There was discussion and direction to work through Ms. Sandorse.</p> <p>Ms. Lawler noted that the MWA Wild & Scenic Film Festival will be on February 26th.</p> <p>A motion to adjourn at 8:40p was made by Mr. Henriksen, seconded by Mr. Newman and unanimously approved.</p>