

# Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission

## Agenda

April 21st, 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
<b>Kickoff, Roll Call &amp; Connecting Moment</b> (Adam Duckworth)	Call meeting to order and record attendance.	15 Min
<b>Presentation of Minutes</b> (Adam Duckworth)	Review and approval of March Meeting Minutes. The following people are approving minutes based on their attendance at the last meeting: Mr. Duckworth, Mr. Henriksen, Ms. Hardy, Ms. Koch, and Ms. Lawler.	10 Min
<b>General Admin</b> (Adam Duckworth)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean Communities Program</li> <li>• Point Mountain Bridge Public Hearing</li> </ul>	20 Min
<b>Newsletter</b>	Summer newsletter deadline is May 1 <sup>st</sup> . Articles on the docket include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Litter Cleanup Success Story (Maria Naccarato)</li> <li>• Article TBD (Erik Henriksen)</li> </ul> Backlog: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proper Use of Pesticides and Herbicides (target Summer 2016)</li> <li>• Organic Methods</li> <li>• Invasive Species</li> </ul>	5 Min
<b>Reports</b>	Provide updates on the following standard topics below; see pre-submitted updates in <b>Attachment 1</b> . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EOSC Budget (Duckworth)</li> <li>• Planning Board (Duckworth)</li> <li>• Highlands Act (Duckworth)</li> <li>• Musconetcong Watershed Association (Henriksen)</li> <li>• Raritan Headwaters Association (Lawler)</li> <li>• Sustainable Jersey (Duckworth)</li> </ul>	15 Min
<b>Correspondence</b>	Acknowledge and share any formal correspondence received by EOSC chair or informal correspondence received by EOSC members. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>	5 Min
<b>Focus Topics</b>	A select set of topics that require deeper discussion.	20 Min

Topic	Intent/Materials	Time
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnership with the Recreation Committee on the Bee Program</li> <li>• NJWSA Property Agreement Status</li> </ul>	
<b>Portfolio Review</b>	<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 <b>Attachment 2</b>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Litter Cleanup (Naccarato)</li> <li>• Well Testing (Lawler)</li> <li>• Open Space and Preserved Property Mapping (Duckworth)</li> <li>• Bunnvale Grant (Hardy)</li> <li>• Goracy Trail (Hardy)</li> <li>• Recycling Actions (Mickley)</li> <li>• NJ Water Supply Property Agreement Refresh (Mickley)</li> </ul>	20 Min

## **Attachment 1 – Reports: Pre-submitted Updates**

### **EOSC Budget (Duckworth)**

As per Mr. Duckworth on 24-Apr-2017, a snapshot of the EOSC account was requested from Joann Fascenelli who has placed a copy of it in the EOSC mailbox at the municipal building. It had not yet been picked up by Mr. Duckworth prior to the April EOSC meeting.

### **Planning Board (Duckworth)**

As per Mr. Duckworth on 24-Apr-2017, there have been no Planning Board meetings since the March EOSC meeting. The next Planning Board meeting is on May 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **Highlands Act (Duckworth)**

No update submitted prior to the meeting.

### **Musconetcong Watershed Association (Henriksen)**

As per Mr. Henriksen on 24-Apr-2017, for the Musconetcong River Management Council (MRMC), 1) Nancy Lawler reported on preliminary findings that the Musconetcong has elevated levels of road salt. She recently completed the first year of a three year study and next steps regarding remediation are being worked on. 2) The DEP ruled that there is no intermittent stream on the Haberman property, based on information provided by the developer and a site visit. The MWA will contest this finding. 3) Our federal funding is up in the air.

For MWA, 1) The River cleanup was a great success, the final numbers have not been tallied, I'll share upon receipt. 2) The Native Plant sale is this weekend. 3) The board is working on funding strategies for legal fees to fight The Haberman development.

### **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**

### **Open Space and Preserved Property Mapping**

No update submitted prior to the meeting.

### **Bunnvale Grant**

As per Ms. Hardy on 22-Apr-2017, the NJDEP has issued the 2017 RFP for Water Quality Restoration Grants for Nonpoint Source Pollution. The applications are due by 5 pm EDT on Thursday, May 4, 2017. We will need approval (in the form of a resolution or proclamation) for resubmitting the 2016 Bunnvale Rain Garden Grant Application to the NJDEP for this 2017 grant cycle from the Lebanon Township Committee at their next public meeting on Wednesday, May 5th. New updated Letters of Support will need to be submitted with the 2017 Bunnvale Rain Garden grant application. Our Princeton Hydro consultant Chris Mikolajczyk, recommended that we procure the same letters of support that we had in 2016, but the new letters should reflect the change in RFP title & the letters should now be addressed to Ms Dian Smith, (not Jay Springer as was done in 2016) as per the new 2017 RFP. Chris noted that this may be the last year that Raritan Water Region applications will be a priority for the NJDEP as their focus will shift to the Lower Delaware Water Region for the 2018 grant cycle.

The link below is to access the NJDEP 2017 RFP:

[http://www.state.nj.us/dep/wms/bears/docs/nps\\_grant\\_rfp\\_2017.pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/wms/bears/docs/nps_grant_rfp_2017.pdf)

**Goracy Trail**

As per Ms. Hardy on 21-Apr-2017, the Township Committee voted on April 5th to present the proposed Purchase Contract to the landowner Vi Giaquinto for her review. On April 12th, Deputy Mayor/Committeeman Mike Schmidt & EOSC member Sharon Hardy met with Vi on the morning of April 12th to present & discuss the proposed Purchase Contract. The meeting with Vi went very well. She'll review the contract with her lawyer & get back to us. If they don't hear back from her in a few weeks, Ms. Hardy will follow up with her.

**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

April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017

### ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order with a quorum at: 7:07 PM. In addition to EOSC members, Committeeman Schmidt, Mayor Laul and Marty Collett were in attendance.

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
Deb Goodsite	Member	No
Adam Mickley	Member	No
Sharon Hardy	Alternate 1	X
Kathy Koch	Alternate 2	X

### STANDARD AGENDA

Topic	Intent/Materials	Time
<b>Kickoff, Roll Call &amp; Connecting Moment</b> (Adam Duckworth)	Call meeting to order and record attendance.	15 Min
<b>Presentation of Minutes</b> (Adam Duckworth)	Review and approval of March Meeting Minutes. The following people are approving minutes based on their attendance at the last meeting: Mr. Duckworth, Mr. Henriksen, Ms. Hardy, Ms. Koch, and Ms. Lawler.  <b>Minutes:</b> Motion to approve meeting minutes from May EOSC meeting made by Mr. Henriksen, seconded by Ms. Koch and unanimously approved.	10 Min
<b>General Admin</b> (Adam Duckworth)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean Communities Program</li> <li>• Point Mountain Bridge Public Hearing</li> </ul> <p><b>Minutes:</b> Mr. Duckworth stated that he followed up with Joann Fascenelli to learn more about Clean Communities funding and also reviewed materials online about the program. A summary was posted to Slack for future reference. Funding is allocated in the form of a block grant to counties and municipalities. Municipalities are allocated funding based on road mileage with Lebanon Township typically receiving ~\$30K. This money can be used for litter-related activities.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth asked if anyone was able to attend the public hearing for the Point Mountain Bridge project. Mr. Henriksen said he could not attend. Mr. Laul stated we should not expect any site plan review for that work as it is not required. Ms. Koch asked about notification to businesses for the 513 bridge replacement. Mr. Laul</p>	20 Min

Topic	Intent/Materials	Time
	<p>stated some routes are being communicated.</p> <p>Ms. Petzinger stated the Emerald Ash borer has been confirmed in Warren County with a tree that has been infested for ~2 years. She stated Lebanon Township likely has infested trees and we just don't know about it yet. Ash trees are near the parking area in Memorial Park. There is the possibility to do an herbicide treatment but it is expensive and must be kept away from pollinator flowers. Mr. Duckworth stated there are three different aspects to consider: 1) Communication to homeowners directly, 2) township property and road assessment, and 3) proactive neighborhood-wide assessments. After discussion the commission agreed it would not pursue option 3 and that it would be up to individual homeowners to band together at their discretion.</p> <p>Mr. Laul stated he would reach out to a JCP&amp;L representative to see how they have approached the problem since they have to maintain their power lines. Ms. Petzinger will investigate a potential grant for assessment and removal work. Ms. Koch swamp white oak for replanting. Ms. Petzinger to write newsletter article.</p> <p>Ms. Petzinger stated that there was a new forest stewardship rule that went out for public comment that affects stewardship forests. Ms. Petzinger offered to draft comments for review by the Commission at the next meeting. The team agreed.</p> <p>Mr. Laul shared his idea of using trails for memorializing individuals and encouraging people to contribute to trail building. Mr. Henriksen asked if it would be to define the path of the trail. Mr. Laul stated no as that would be EOSC's responsibility. Mr. Collett asked if that applied to adoption of an existing trail. Mr. Laul stated that his intent was to get new trails built. Mr. Duckworth asked if an example might be the "Shriver Trail" after Pat Shriver but Mr. Laul stated Pat Shriver is not necessarily the focus but more just a general recommendation as a way to provide an outlet to encourage trail building. Mr. Newman suggested that we define and publicize opportunities for trail building. The discussion ended with no definitive actions identified.</p> <p>Mr. Schmidt highlighted the pending Open Space Plan update and the opportunity to influence the update of the plan to call out trail connectivity. He asked Mike Bolan about potential grant money in support of this activity but does not have an answer yet. Ms. Petzinger asked if an update to the Natural Resource Inventory was also part of this work and Mr. Schmidt said no, it was out of scope. Mr. Duckworth asked if materials will be shared before the Planning Board meeting. Mr. Schmidt will reach out to Planner Bolan to ensure he shares materials prior to the meeting. Mr. Schmidt stated that there is a recreation plan component to the overall plan and asked who might take that on. Mr. Duckworth suggested Recreation Committee be approached and that he would follow up with Ms. Naccarato who leads that Committee.</p>	

Topic	Intent/Materials	Time
<b>Newsletter</b>	<p>Summer newsletter deadline is May 1<sup>st</sup>. Articles on the docket include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Litter Cleanup Success Story (Maria Naccarato)</li> <li>• Article TBD (Erik Henriksen)</li> </ul> <p>Backlog:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proper Use of Pesticides and Herbicides (target Summer 2016)</li> <li>• Organic Methods</li> <li>• Invasive Species</li> </ul> <p><b>Minutes:</b> Mr. Duckworth asked Mr. Henriksen if he'd identified a topic for a newsletter article. Mr. Henriksen stated he's bereft but will continue to think about it.</p>	5 Min
<b>Reports</b>	<p>Provide updates on the following standard topics below; see pre-submitted updates in <b>Attachment 1</b>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EOSC Budget (Duckworth)</li> <li>• Planning Board (Duckworth)</li> <li>• Highlands Act (Duckworth)</li> <li>• Musconetcong Watershed Association (Henriksen)</li> <li>• Raritan Headwaters Association (Lawler)</li> <li>• Sustainable Jersey (Duckworth)</li> </ul> <p><b>Minutes:</b> None, this section of the agenda was deferred until the next meeting.</p>	15 Min
<b>Correspondence</b>	<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"> <li>• None</li> </ul> <p><b>Minutes:</b> Mr. Duckworth asked if there was any correspondence Commission members had received since last meeting. There was none.</p>	5 Min
<b>Focus Topics</b>	<p>A select set of topics that require deeper discussion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnership with the Recreation Committee on the Bee Program</li> <li>• NJWSA Property Agreement Status</li> </ul> <p><b>Minutes:</b> Mr. Duckworth stated that the Recreation Committee is hosting a Bee Program at Memorial Park on Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, and that EOSC will be participating. EOSC will be offering a planting station where kids can report a pollinator-friendly plant to bring home with them. He asked for volunteers. Mr. Henriksen and Ms. Koch volunteered with Ms. Hardy stating she will also attend if possible.</p> <p>Mr. Mickley was not in attendance so the NJWSA Property Agreement Status was deferred until the next meeting.</p>	20 Min
<b>Portfolio Review</b>	<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 <b>Attachment 2</b>.</p>	20 Min

Topic	Intent/Materials	Time
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Litter Cleanup (Naccarato)</li> <li>• Well Testing (Lawler)</li> <li>• Open Space and Preserved Property Mapping (Duckworth)</li> <li>• Bunnvale Grant (Hardy)</li> <li>• Goracy Trail (Hardy)</li> <li>• Recycling Actions (Mickley)</li> <li>• NJ Water Supply Property Agreement Refresh (Mickley)</li> </ul> <p><b>Minutes:</b> Ms. Petzinger asked if there was interest in having her do an additional bird survey between May 15<sup>th</sup> and June 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Duckworth said yes but would have to think about the best location. He took an action to work with the team offline on identifying another location.</p> <p>Mr. Henriksen stated there were findings of salt in the Musconetcong River. Mr. Schmidt responded that the Township is reducing salt usage by taking a new approach to application that will also reduce the cost of road maintenance. Mr. Henriksen said information packets will be provided to Environmental Commissions along the Musconetcong communicating the results of the findings and mitigations that can be done.</p> <p>Ms. Hardy reviewed her pre-submitted project updates for Bunnvale Grant and Goracy Trail Projects.</p> <p>Ms. Koch shared an update on well testing and will follow up with Ms. Lawler to ensure there is sufficient marketing of the event.</p> <p>Ms. Koch stated there is a property for sale for \$219K sized 22 acres along Rt. 513, but has an existing lease with the Navy for 99 years. Ms. Koch will pass on the information to RHA for consideration. Ms. Koch is planning to walk the property and obtain a copy of the existing lease. Mr. Schmidt stated the property has caught the attention of various preservation groups.</p> <p>Ms. Petzinger suggested an article on ticks for the upcoming newsletter and Mr. Henriksen agreed to write one.</p> <p>Mr. Schmidt stated that the deed issue with Red Mill Rd. has been settled. The Township did not get the Highlands Council Grant as applied for in the amount of \$65K.</p> <p>Mr. Schmidt stated that NJ Conservation Foundation is leading the negotiations to acquire the Pelio property for the Point Mountain-Teetertown link and is close to an options agreement. A Resolution will be on next week's Township Committee meeting to apply for a Hunterdon County Open Space grant of \$750K.</p> <p>Mr. Schmidt stated the County is in conversation with a property owner to acquire a 99-acre parcel in the Point Mountain area commonly called the Denton property.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth asked Mr. Collett if he was interested in joining the Environmental and Open Space Commission. Mr. Collett said yes. Mr. Duckworth asked for a motion to support Mr. Collett's application to join EOSC and bring the request to Township Committee. Ms. Petzinger made the motion, Ms. Hardy seconded and it was unanimously approved.</p>	



Topic	Intent/Materials	Time
	Mr. Duckworth asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50PM. Ms. Koch made the motion, Mr. Henriksen seconded and it was unanimously approved.	