

# Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission

## Agenda

August 5<sup>th</sup>, 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
<b>Kickoff, Roll Call &amp; Connecting Moment</b>	Call meeting to order and take roll call.
<b>Presentation of Minutes</b>	Review and approval of June Meeting Minutes. All commission members can approve except for Mr. Collett and Ms. Petzinger who were not present at the June meeting.  Review and approval of July Meeting Minutes. All commission members can approve except for Mr. Newman, Ms. Lawler and Mr. Henriksen who were not present at the July meeting.
<b>Old Business</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Lebanon Township Deer Management Ordinance (Laul)</li><li>b) LT Water Quality Management Plan (Duckworth)</li><li>c) Miquin-Goracy Link update (Hardy)</li><li>d) LT open space boundary signage (Duckworth)</li></ul>
<b>New Business</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Rescheduling of September meeting due to Labor Day conflict. (Duckworth)</li><li>b) JCP&amp;L tree trimming (Duckworth)</li><li>c) State Forest Action Plan (Attachment 1) – Opportunity for comments (Duckworth)</li></ul>
<b>Newsletter</b>	Fall newsletter deadline was August 1 <sup>st</sup> . No articles submitted.  Winter newsletter deadline is November 1 <sup>st</sup> . Articles on the docket include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2019 EOSC Year in Review (Duckworth)</li></ul>
<b>Correspondence</b>	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 <a href="https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B14m3wFylheUWjBjNEkwalU4TGc">https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B14m3wFylheUWjBjNEkwalU4TGc</a> . <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None</li></ul>

# Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission

## Minutes

August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019

### ROLL CALL

EOSC Member	Role	Attendance
Adam Duckworth	Chairman, Planning Board Liaison	X
Sharon Petzinger	Member	No
Warren Newman	Member	X
Erik Jan Henriksen	Member	X
Nancy Lawler	Member	X (7:20 pm)
Sharon Hardy	Member	X
Kathy Koch	Member	X
Marty Collett	Alternate 1	X
Mike Chen	Alternate 2	X

### MEETING MINUTES

Topic	Intent/Materials
<b>Kickoff, Roll Call &amp; Connecting Moment</b>	<p>Call meeting to order and take roll call.</p> <p><b>Minutes:</b> The meeting was called to order by Mr. Duckworth at 7:08 pm. In addition to the EOSC members noted above, Mayor Schmidt and Committeeman Laul were in attendance.</p>
<b>Presentation of Minutes</b>	<p>Review and approval of June Meeting Minutes. All commission members can approve except for Mr. Collett and Ms. Petzinger who were not present at the June meeting.</p> <p>Review and approval of July Meeting Minutes. All commission members can approve except for Mr. Newman, Ms. Lawler and Mr. Henriksen who were not present at the July meeting.</p> <p><b>Minutes:</b> Mr. Duckworth asked if there were any comments on the June Meeting Minutes. There were none. A motion to approve the June Meeting Minutes was made by Mr. Henriksen, seconded by Ms. Koch and unanimously approved.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth asked if there were any comments on the July Meeting Minutes. There were none. A motion to approve the July Meeting Minutes was made by Mr. Collett seconded by Ms. Koch and unanimously approved.</p>
<b>Old Business</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>e) Lebanon Township Deer Management Ordinance (Laul)</li> <li>f) LT Water Quality Management Plan (Duckworth)</li> <li>g) Miquin-Goracy Link update (Hardy)</li> <li>h) LT open space boundary signage (Duckworth)</li> </ul> <p><b>Minutes:</b> Mr. Duckworth asked Committeeman Laul to discuss next steps with the deer management ordinance. Committeeman Laul said that he spoke to the Chief of Police and the police department is supportive of the program. The municipality now owns a machine that can be used to issue printed permits with a hunter's picture.</p> <p>Mayor Schmidt stated that if we wanted to bring this forward to Township Committee, we would need to have materials ready by August 16<sup>th</sup> for the August 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. Committeeman Laul will confirm that the police chief is available and can attend. Mr. Duckworth asked for a motion to appoint a sub-committee of he and Mr. Chen to work with Committeeman Laul and NJ Water Supply Authority (NJWSA) representative, Nick Zemlachenko, to prepare materials for the Township Committee meeting. Mr. Newman made the motion, it was seconded by Mr. Collett</p>

Topic	Intent/Materials
	<p>and unanimously approved.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth moved on to the topic of a water quality management plan for Lebanon Township. He recapped the conversation at the previous EOSC meeting for Ms. Lawler who had not been present at that meeting. Ms. Lawler said that algae blooms typically occur in slow-moving, warmer water. Lakes can be as much as 10 degrees warmer than our streams and rivers. Mr. Newman stated that a lot of rain will saturate the ground and add to the problem by driving bacteria from septic systems into waterways.</p> <p>Ms. Lawler was supportive in concept of developing a “water assessment plan” for the Township to try and identify problematic watersheds within the community. Mr. Newman stated that we could use our planning grant to potentially map these tributary watersheds. Ms. Lawler said that bacteria from failing septic systems are particularly problematic and one test we should consider is TMDL (Total Max Daily Load). If you look at the cost of a bacterial test in our well testing program, then \$60 is a safe assumption for a worst-case cost. If we assume we need five samples per tributary per month and we run a pilot for one month then the cost would be ~\$5K. This is very reasonable. Ms. Lawler asked if we could use Clean Communities money to fund the execution of the plan.</p> <p>Mr. Newman noted that we might need permission from a landowner depending on where the tributary is. Ms. Lawler suggested calling this a “water assessment plan” to ensure we differentiate from anything formal.</p> <p>The team agree to target October for a deeper dive into this idea with some of our partners, including RHA, MWA, NJWSA and the Highlands Council. Trout Unlimited, the AquaVida Water Company, ANJEC and North Jersey RC&amp;D were other partners considered but decided against for this initial discussion.</p> <p>Proceeding to the next topic, Ms. Hardy stated that she had a great talk with Vi and that Vi requested signage language be added as part of the contract before she signs it.</p> <p>Proceeding to the next topic, Mr. Duckworth stated he has not made any progress with the open space boundary signage and that he needs to provide the appropriate graphics files for the Township logo to the vendor. Mr. Laul said that he has a graphic artist that can help with a logo and getting it in the proper format if needed.</p>
<p><b>New Business</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>d) Rescheduling of September meeting due to Labor Day conflict. (Duckworth)</li> <li>e) JCP&amp;L tree trimming (Duckworth)</li> <li>f) State Forest Action Plan (Attachment 1) – Opportunity for comments (Duckworth)</li> </ul> <p><b>Minutes:</b> Mr. Duckworth stated that he would like to reschedule the September EOSC meeting since it falls on the Labor Day holiday. The following Monday is not an option as the Parks Committee is already meeting. Options for dates include Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, and then the following Monday and Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>A motion was made to move the September EOSC meeting to Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> by Ms. Koch, seconded by Ms. Hardy and unanimously approved. Mr. Duckworth will inform Clerk Sandorse and have her notice the change.</p> <p>Proceeding to the next topic, Committeeman Laul stated that JCP&amp;L is coming through and trimming trees again. Mayor Schmidt stated that there is new legislation that requires more aggressive tree trimming around power lines within a certain distance from a sub-station and this affects part of Lebanon Township. Mr. Duckworth said he has heard from residents and some residents are for it while others are against it. He is planning to follow up with JCP&amp;L representatives to understand more about the criteria by which they have identified trees to remove along Musconetcong River Rd. so that he can respond to a resident’s question.</p> <p>Ms. Koch asked about the “Vargas Property” and if the Township is the owner of that now. Committeeman Laul said he did not believe so but would follow-up.</p>

Topic	Intent/Materials
	<p>Ms. Lawler shared her regrets and left the meeting at this time.</p> <p>Proceeding to the next topic, Mr. Duckworth stated he received a notification of an opportunity to provide comments on the State Forest Management Plan (attached to the agenda). Ms. Petzinger has already volunteered to be part of a sub-committee to provide the comments. Mr. Duckworth said it was not clear if there was a new plan to provide comments on or if it was just a matter of answering the survey mentioned in the letter. Mr. Newman is going to clarify this with the NJ State Forester.</p> <p>Mr. Henriksen made a motion to create a sub-committee of Mr. Duckworth, Mr. Petzinger and himself to review the Forest Management Plan and prepare and submit comments by August 30<sup>th</sup>. It was seconded by Mr. Newman and unanimously approved.</p>
<b>Newsletter</b>	<p>Fall newsletter deadline was August 1<sup>st</sup>. No articles submitted.</p> <p>Winter newsletter deadline is November 1<sup>st</sup>. Articles on the docket include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019 EOSC Year in Review (Duckworth)</li> <li>• Well test data (Koch)</li> </ul> <p><b>Minutes:</b> Mr. Duckworth reminded the team that November 1<sup>st</sup> is the next deadline for the winter newsletter.</p>
<b>Correspondence</b>	<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 <a href="https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B14m3wFylheUWjBjNEkwalU4TGc">https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B14m3wFylheUWjBjNEkwalU4TGc</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul> <p><b>Minutes:</b> Mr. Duckworth proceeded around the table asked each team member if they had any other topics to discuss. There were none. A motion was made by Mr. Collett to adjourn the meeting at 8:45. It was seconded by Ms. Koch and unanimously approved.</p>



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES  
NEW JERSEY FOREST SERVICE  
MAIL CODE 501-04  
P.O. BOX 420  
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0420  
TEL: # 609-292-2532 FAX: # 609-984-0378

PHILIP D. MURPHY  
*Governor*

SHEILA Y. OLIVER  
*Lt. Governor*

CATHERINE R. McCABE  
*Commissioner*

July 16, 2019

Dear Valued Stakeholder,

From habitat fragmentation to invasive species, the environmental issues that impact NJ's trees and forests are complex. The NJ Forest Service is currently assessing these issues for the 2020 New Jersey Forest Action Plan. This action plan, which is submitted to the US Forest Service for approval, serves as the state's basis for federal forestry funding, and outlines the state's forest management priorities to focus on over the next 10 years. The NJ 2010 Forest Action Plan can be found at <http://bit.ly/forestactionplan>.

Your input is essential to the planning process. When New Jersey works cooperatively toward the same forest management goals, we are able to make a more significant impact to improve the health, safety, and resilience of our tree and forest resource.

The ten-year Forest Action Plan:

- Sets forest management priorities across New Jersey
- Supports the conservation, protection, and enhancement of New Jersey's forests and trees
- Allows local governments the opportunity to be eligible for grant funding toward priority projects

The New Jersey Forest Action Plan will summarize the current assessments of the state's traditional and urban and community forests and serve as a strategic plan for responsible forest stewardship. In addition, the Forest Legacy Assessment of Need, a document that highlights forested areas in the state that could or should be protected, will be incorporated into 2020 Forest Action Plan. In the past, this was a stand-alone document.

The NJ Department of Environmental Protection and the NJ Forest Service welcome your input into the New Jersey Forest Action Plan. Please complete the online survey at <http://bit.ly/municipalsurvey> to provide us with some general information about your community and how it relates to the NJ Forest Action Plan. For more detail contact the NJ Forest Service – Urban and Community Forestry Program Coordinator, Carrie Sargeant at [carrie.sargeant@dep.nj.gov](mailto:carrie.sargeant@dep.nj.gov). We will be accepting your input up until August 30, 2019.

Thank you for your time and participation in the New Jersey Forest Action Plan development process. We look forward to working with you in this collaborative process.

Sincerely,

Olivia C. Glenn  
Director, Division of Parks and Forestry  
NJ Department of Environmental Protection

