

Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission Agenda

October 16th, 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	Call meeting to order and take roll call.	15 Min
Presentation of Minutes	Review and approval of September Meeting Minutes. All commission members were present at the September meeting and are able to approve Minutes based on their attendance.	10 Min
General Admin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County Shade Commission Report • Land Preservation Brochure/Conservation Easement Volunteer 	10 Min
Newsletter	<p>Winter newsletter deadline November 1st. Articles to be submitted include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well Testing Results (Ms. Koch) • LT Fall Festival (Mr. Duckworth) <p>Backlog: Proper Use of Pesticides and Herbicides, Organic Methods, Invasive Species</p>	5 Min
Correspondence	<p>Acknowledge and share any formal correspondence received by EOSC chair or informal correspondence received by EOSC members. All correspondence 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"> • Email from Wim Vandenhouweele, 3 Winters Drive, regarding chemical smell sensed nearly daily, at all times, in Tewksbury, Lebanon, Glen Gardner and Califon, including specific roads of Rocky Run, West Hill, Mt. Kipp, Mt. Lebanon and Anthony. “Clinical smell” about 3-4 times per week for past two months, less frequently before then. Has not spoken to neighbors about this to determine if others have also smelled this odor, but will do so at Mr. Duckworth’s recommendation. 	15 Min
Focus Topics	<p>A select set of topics that require deeper discussion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dam Removal at Christian Crossroads 	20 Min

Topic	Intent/Materials	Time
Reports	<p>Provide updates on the following standard topics below; see pre-submitted updates in Attachment 1.</p> <p><u>Program Reports</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Litter Cleanup (Naccarato) • Well Testing (Koch) <p><u>Project Reports</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NJ Water Supply Property Agreement Refresh (Mickley) • Open Space and Preserved Property Mapping/OSRP (Duckworth) • Block 36, Lot 17 Partial Preservation “Goracy Trail” (Hardy) • Block 35, Lot 88 Preservation “Red Mill Road” (Schmidt) • Pt. Mountain/Teetertown Link (Schmidt) • 2017 ANJEC Environmental Congress (Koch) <p><u>Administrative Reports</u></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) 	5 Min

Attachment 1: Reports

Program Reports

Well Testing

No update.

Litter Cleanup

No update.

Project Reports

Open Space and Preserved Property Mapping/OSRP

As per Mr. Duckworth on 16-Oct-2017, the open space and preserved property mapping effort using the online ScribbleMaps tool is nearly complete. All existing preserved properties and properties of preservation interest are mapped. A final audit of the underlying Excel data file against the online map is required. Another review of the OSRP draft document will occur at the Planning Board meeting on 17-Oct-2017.

Lebanon Township Fall Fest

As per Mr. Duckworth on 16-Oct-2017, EOSC had a station at the Lebanon Township Fall Festival in Memorial Park. Mr. Duckworth, Ms. Koch, Mr. Collett, Mr. Mickley and Ms. Hardy volunteered at various times throughout the day to set up, manage the activities and clean up. EOSC offered a game for children and adults where they could try to win a prize by tossing a bean bag through holes in a board that represented the different parks and open space in the Township. Prizes were oriented toward raising awareness of septic systems and septic maintenance. EOSC members also passed out a new township land preservation brochure. Approximately 37 brochures were passed out to Township Residents throughout the day with approximately 100 people playing the game. Overall the activity and materials were well-received.

Goracy Trail

As per Ms. Hardy on 15-Oct-2017, Committeeman & Open Space Coordinator Mike Schmidt & EOSC member, Ms. Hardy, met with the Landowner, Vi Giaquinto, on Oct 8th to review & discuss some survey maps with her as there appears to be some variations regarding her property line among the different land surveys. The Landowner plans to do some further survey research on this matter.

NJ Water Supply Property Agreement Refresh

No pre-submitted report received.

Point Mountain to Teetertown Link

No pre-submitted report received.

Red Mill Road

No pre-submitted report received.

2017 ANJEC Environmental Congress

Ms. Koch attended the 2017 ANJEC Environmental Congress on 13-Oct-2017 and provided the following report on the event:

Using Star Wars analogies, resistance as the key word, Jennifer Coffey outlined ANJEC's 2018 priorities: 1) Water Conservation Ordinances, 2) Stream Corridor Protection, 3) Renewable Energy, and 4) Single Use Plastic Reduction.

Mayor Dawn Zimmer of Hoboken gave a well-documented and illustrated analysis of Hoboken's post-

Hurricane Sandy flood remediation project, titled “Rebuild by Design”. Although the major pumping, storm walls and gates do not apply to Lebanon Township, keeping our waterways clear of debris, micro power grids with natural gas fuel, and their Emergency Response Team concept are worth investigating.

The first workshop was “Meeting with Commissioners”. I chose “Trees” as my primary conversation with Jennifer Duckworth, chair of the Millburn Environmental Commission. Tree inventories are advocated, using GPS devices, working with Rutgers, and the NJ Shade Tree Federation [based in Flemington]. Tree health is important as it relates to air quality, shade, beauty and storm water management. By having a shade tree plan, the township may be awarded liability protection in the event a tree falls on a person.

We had the opportunity to test drive electric cars. I chose a Toyota Prius Prime, which is a plug-in hybrid, with a mpg of 54 and 113 when on full electric. I was impressed. Our municipal vehicles should aim for these qualities.

Governor Florio spoke at the mid-day period of how we must get people engaged and informed and that we, as Environmental Commissioners, have to have the information so that we can answer the public's questions.

Lisa Plevin, EPA officer under President Obama gave a lengthy talk on all of the proposed budget cuts of the current EPA. It will be devastating for New Jersey and affect us directly. Funds will be cut or eliminated for lead risk reduction, radon, underground tank monitoring, estuary programs, grants for wetlands, brown fields, drinking water standards, air pollution controls, superfund site remediation and the list goes on. \$140 million will be cut from NJ alone.

Cindy Ehrenclou, of Raritan Headwaters Association advocated getting new people in place in government, well-testing and stream clean-up.

The afternoon session I chose dealt with “Working with Local Businesses”. Although some do not apply to us in Lebanon Township, e.g. Oyster Shell Reclamation, bulk container purchasing for local businesses, and other ideas suited to a more concentrated business locale, what would suit us is plastic use reduction through educating businesses to not give out plastic bags without asking if the customer wants one and getting restaurants to allow reusable containers and compostable utensils for take-out meals. Lambertville has an excellent program, “Third Can Program”, where they compost all kitchen waste, dog waste and cardboard food boxes, sending it to a Sussex County company called AgChoice and then receiving clean compost in return. There is no net cost to the taxpayers, as the trash load is reduced significantly. Lambertville has found that 15% of their municipal waste stream is food related. Helaine Barr of the DEP spoke about NJ Sustainable Business Registry and using it to build relationships, reduce waste, and encourage LED bulb use and recycling. She asked us to frame the project as to what we are doing right and then improving upon it, to put a positive spin on the message of environmental responsibility.

Administrative Reports

EOSC Budget (Duckworth)

No pre-submitted report received.

Planning Board (Duckworth)

As per Mr. Duckworth on 16-Oct-2017, there was one Planning Board meeting on September 19th, which was the day after the September EOSC meeting. Mr. Duckworth presented the board with the slides approved by EOSC at the prior meeting, reiterating that preservation does not equate to acquisition. Mr. Duckworth stated repeatedly that text should be worked into the document that clearly communicates that many of the preservation priorities are listed because there is a small portion of the property, perhaps only requiring a conservation easement that would enable trail connectivity. The recommendation to incorporate the updated list of properties and the trail concept plan was generally well-received with direction given to Planner Bolan to include the list of properties in the updated OSRP map of preservation priorities.

Highlands Act (Duckworth)

No pre-submitted report received.

Musconetcong Watershed Association (MWA)/Musconetcong River Management Council (MRMC) (Henriksen)

No pre-submitted report received.

Raritan Headwaters Association (Lawler)

No pre-submitted report received.

Sustainable Jersey (Duckworth)

No pre-submitted report received.

Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission Minutes

October 16th, 2017

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
Adam Mickley	Member	X
Kathy Koch	Alternate 1	X
Marty Collett	Alternate 2	X

MEETING MINUTES

Topic	Intent/Materials	Time
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 7:09 PM.</p>	15 Min
Presentation of Minutes	<p>Review and approval of September Meeting Minutes. All commission members were present at the September meeting and are able to approve Minutes based on their attendance.</p> <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth asked for a motion to approve September Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Henriksen, seconded by Ms. Lawler and unanimously approved.</p>	10 Min

Topic	Intent/Materials	Time
<p>General Admin</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County Shade Commission Report • Land Preservation Brochure/Conservation Easement Volunteer <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth asked Mr. Henriksen if there was any news regarding services that might be provided by the County Shade Commission. Mr. Henriksen stated that Robert Becker replied back and the only thing they are doing at this juncture is at a location in Readington. If anything expands, they'll keep us in the loop. Mr. Henriksen stated that this action is closed and no additional follow-up is required.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth stated that the Fall Fest on October 16th was a successful event and shared some pictures from the event with the commission. He reviewed the information in the pre-submitted report with the commission and passed out the new Land Preservation Brochures to those that hadn't yet seen them. Mr. Duckworth asked the team to give feedback on the brochure at the next meeting. Ms. Hardy suggested we create a Slack channel for the Fall Fest for planning purposes next year. Ms. Lawler stated that we should give copies to the Land Trusts for feedback and that she would do that. Ms. Lawler also stated that we should consider to pay someone to do the conservation easement assessment project rather than looking for a volunteer. She suggested to reach out to the Rutgers Cooperative Extension to see if they can help. Mr. Duckworth said he would do that. Mr. Collett acknowledged that was a good idea, as well.</p>	<p>10 Min</p>
<p>Newsletter</p>	<p>Winter newsletter deadline November 1st. Articles to be submitted include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well Testing Results (Ms. Koch) • LT Fall Festival (Mr. Duckworth) <p>Backlog: Proper Use of Pesticides and Herbicides, Organic Methods, Invasive Species</p> <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth stated there were two articles on the docket for the winter newsletter and reminded the team that the deadline for article submission is November 1st. He asked if anyone had other articles they wished to submit. Ms. Lawler asked if there was anything important to inform residents of before winter. Mr. Henriksen suggested we suggest people do a road cleanup before the snow falls. Mr. Duckworth stated that that would be easy enough and he would put a blurb in the newsletter. Ms. Hardy suggested we promote leaf removal and brush clearance along driveways. Ms. Lawler suggested we promote the actions DPW has taken to reduce salt usage; she said she would talk with Committeeman Schmidt to validate the details.</p>	<p>5 Min</p>

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Correspondence	<p>Acknowledge and share any formal correspondence received by EOOSC chair or informal correspondence received by EOOSC members. All correspondence 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"> Email from Wim Vandenhouweele, 3 Winters Drive, regarding chemical smell sensed nearly daily, at all times, in Tewksbury, Lebanon, Glen Gardner and Califon, including specific roads of Rocky Run, West Hill, Mt. Kipp, Mt. Lebanon and Anthony. "Clinical smell" about 3-4 times per week for past two months, less frequently before then. Has not spoken to neighbors about this to determine if others have also smelled this odor, but will do so at Mr. Duckworth's recommendation. <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth reviewed the details in the agenda regarding the inquiry from Wim Vandenhouweele. Mr. Henriksen stated that the appropriate organization to call is the DEP and that the number is (877)WARNDP. Mr. Duckworth said he would respond to Mr. Vandenhouweele.</p>	15 Min
Focus Topics	<p>A select set of topics that require deeper discussion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dam Removal at Christian Crossroads <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth stated there was only one focus topic this evening and turned the meeting over to Ms. Lawler to facilitate the conversation on the Christian Crossroads dam removal. Ms. Lawler stated that there is a dam on the property of Christian Crossroads that is impounding nearly seven acres of pond. The dam is in non-compliance and in danger of failing. It has to be replaced as an estimated cost of \$1.4MM or removed at an estimated cost of \$0.5MM. The owner has chosen to remove the dam. Mr. Bryan Cowden, a restoration specialist from Trout Scapes River Restoration, LLC., has been hired for the project. Mr. Cowden had called Ms. Lawler to inform the EOOSC that this work was being planned. Mr. Duckworth asked if the EOOSC would be informed through a required notification process but Ms. Lawler said not in the case of a privately-owned dam. She stated that an environmental company is monitoring the work, monitoring such indicators as pH and turbidity downstream from the site.</p> <p>The DEP has asked him to relocate all the fish. He has a water lowering permit and a scientific fish collection permit and will stock appropriate species in a pond at Crystal Springs Preserve. He will apply hydro-seeding once water is lowered. Ms. Lawler stated that all appropriate precautions seem to be being taken. Ms. Lawler stated that Mr. Cowden told her his personal goal is to restore trout production capabilities and that he hopes to have an event to come and plant trees at the site. Mr. Duckworth asked if there was any need for Mr. Cowden to come speak with us. Ms. Lawler said not at this time. Mr. Mickley said that this would be a good article for a future newsletter once the project is completed and could include some of the historical aspects of the lake and the camp. Mr. Duckworth said he would add it to the newsletter backlog. Mr. Duckworth asked what the timeline for the project is and Ms. Lawler replied that it would be ~1-1/2 years.</p>	20 Min

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