

# Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission Agenda

December 19th, 2016

## 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 November Meeting Minutes. The following people are approving minutes based on their attendance at the last meeting: Petzinger, Duckworth, Hardy, Koch, Mickley, Lawler and Henriksen.	5 Min
<b>General Admin</b> (Adam Duckworth)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christian Crossroads</li> <li>• January EOSC Meeting Date</li> <li>• Team Member Renewals (Mr. Duckworth, Ms. Petzinger, Ms. Koch)</li> <li>• Standard Work for Wetlands LOI Response</li> <li>• DVRPC – Chris Linn</li> <li>• Red Mill Property Acquisition                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ordinance passed by Township Committee authorizing acquisition</li> <li>○ NJCF approved grant to RHA (~\$27K)</li> <li>○ NJCF approved drawback to LT (~\$122K)</li> <li>○ Pending optional Highlands Council grant of 50%</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	10 Min
<b>Newsletter</b>	<p>Spring newsletter deadline is February 1<sup>st</sup>. Articles on the docket include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Well Testing (Nancy Lawler)</li> <li>• Mosquito Control (Adam Mickley)</li> <li>• Litter Cleanup (Maria Naccarato)</li> <li>• Fire Risk Reduction – Brush/Forest (Erik Henriksen w/LTFD)</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>	10 Min

Topic	Intent/Materials	Time
<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 pre-submitted.</li> </ul>	5 Min
<b>Portfolio Review</b>	Project Leads to provide status report and next steps for active and upcoming 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> . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy Gold (Pepperman)</li> <li>• Open Space and Preserved Property Mapping (Duckworth)</li> <li>• Bunnvale Grant (Hardy)</li> <li>• Farm Passport Challenge (Duckworth)</li> <li>• Goracy Trail (Hardy)</li> <li>• Memorial Park Bio-Blitz</li> <li>• Recycling Actions (Mickley)</li> <li>• NJ Water Supply Property Agreement Refresh (Mickley)</li> </ul>	Offline
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	Introduce for discussion any special topics outside of the standard agenda. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2017 Well Testing Event Planning</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	15 Min

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

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

None submitted.

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

None submitted.

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

None submitted.

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

The MWA has completed the transition to our new Executive Director, Alan Hunt. Administrative issues have kept us busy these last couple of months. Due to the ED change the Musconetcong River Management Council will be meeting for the first time in four months tomorrow night. The New Year will bring collaborative opportunities which I'll post here.

### **Raritan Headwaters Association (Lawler)**

None submitted.

### **Sustainable Jersey (Duckworth)**

None submitted.

## **Attachment 2 – Projects: Pre-submitted Updates**

### **Energy Gold (Pepperman; 17-Dec-2016)**

Ms. Pepperman is still in the process of going through the townships' data. She sent an email to JoAnn Fascinelli a couple months ago about collecting baseline data, and Ms. Fascinelli said she could come in on Tuesday or Friday to input information into a spreadsheet. Unfortunately, the time Ms. Fascinelli is available has conflicted with Ms. Pepperman's class schedule. Ms. Pepperman is aiming to complete data collection by mid-February.

### **Open Space and Preserved Property Mapping (Duckworth; 19-Dec-2016)**

No additional properties have been mapped at this point. The next properties of focus are those under Farmland Preservation, which Ms. Hardy is following up on, and NJ DEP Division of Fish and Wildlife Wildlife Management Areas, which Ms. Petzinger is following up on.

### **Bunnvale Grant (Hardy; 18-Dec-2016)**

Per our 319 Grant consultant, Princeton Hydro's Chris Mikolajczyk, there has still been no decisions made on the 319 Grants. The last email Chris received from the NJDEP stated the following: "Apparently the spending plan has not been approved yet so no definitive decision can be made as to what projects are in or out until that plan is approved. There apparently is no clear deadline to finalize it."

### **Farm Passport Challenge (Duckworth; 19-Dec-2016)**

Four Passports were submitted before the October 18<sup>th</sup> deadline: Emilia Kuhn, Carra Suppo, Sabrina Mickley and George Zack. Since there were four prizes available and each submission is only eligible for one prize, each submission is a winner of a \$50 gift certificate to a local business. One has chosen Rambo's and another has chosen Brasserie 513; the two remaining have yet to identify their choice for a gift certificate. All prizes will be presented within the next two weeks.

### **Goracy Trail (Hardy; 18-Dec-2016)**

Mayor Marc Laul, Committeeman Mike Schmidt, & EOSC member Sharon Hardy met with Viola Giaquinto at 9 AM on Saturday, December 3, 2016, to walk her property located at 661 Woodglen Rd,

(Block 36, Lot 17), to mark out a potential trail & implied boundary of the area that Lebanon Township would be interested in acquiring. Blue & pink flag tape were placed around trees noting the proposed property line and blue tape was used to identify a trail. Photos were also taken of the marked areas. The area measured approximately 2 acres and Viola was open to the idea of selling it to the Township. Vi asked the Township to justify a fair acquisition price as she did not have a specific price in mind to ask for the property. Our next step is to hire an appraiser to reach a fair price.

The project was discussed with Julie Shelley from the NJWSA & they were familiar with the project idea from over the past few years. They confirmed that they would provide 50% of selected soft costs that would include the appraisal, survey, title, & Phase I Environmental Survey (if needed) as a reimbursement to the Township. As NJWSA is a co-owner of the Goracy Trail, we will have to work with them to follow their procedures for acquiring land. They will need to go through their committee for approval & will be party to the lot line adjustment. They do require 3 bids for each component of the selected soft costs as they will pay 50% of those transaction costs & need to justify the costs through the bid process.

We have already received one bid back from Norman J. Goldberg, Inc. As we are not seeking Green Acres funding, we can use an abbreviated appraisal which will be prepared as a Restricted Report. Mr. Goldberg's total fee for preparation of the appraisal would be the sum of \$750.

We are pursuing at least 2 other bids. Once all bids are received the Township Committee would approve engaging an appraiser.

#### **Memorial Park Bio-Blitz**

None submitted.

#### **Recycling Actions (Mickley)**

None submitted.

#### **NJ Water Supply Property Agreement Refresh (Mickley; 19-Dec-2016)**

Mr. Mickley spoke with Julie Shelly (JS) of the NJ Water Supply Authority regarding the merging of two existing maintenance agreements that will cover 4 tracts. He reviewed the agreements and sent a markup to JS on 12/5/2016. JS recommended an addendum to the existing agreement, rather than drafting a completely new agreement. JS drafted the amendment and submitted it for internal attorney review. Once approved by counsel, JS will provide the draft document to Mr. Mickley for comment and dispersal.

# Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission Minutes

December 19th, 2016

## ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order with a quorum at: 7:09 PM. In addition to EOSC members, Committeeman Schmidt and Mayor Laul joined mid-way through the meeting as the minutes indicate below.

EOSC Member	Role	Attendance
Adam Duckworth	Chairman, Planning Board Liaison	X
Sharon Petzinger	Member	X
Warren Newman	Member	X
Erik Jan Henriksen	Member	No
Nancy Lawler	Member	X
Deb Goodsite	Member	No
Adam Mickley	Member	X
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.  <b>Minutes:</b> The team members each shared an accomplishment they were proud of from this year. Some things that were shared included the progress on the Goracy neighboring property acquisition, newsletter articles, use of Slack, interactive mapping, Red Mill property acquisition, Pelio potential, well testing and the bird survey. Mr. Duckworth stated it was a momentum-building year for the team.	15 Min
<b>Presentation of Minutes</b> (Adam Duckworth)	Review and approval of November Meeting Minutes. The following people are approving minutes based on their attendance at the last meeting: Petzinger, Duckworth, Hardy, Koch, Mickley, Lawler and Henriksen.  <b>Minutes:</b> Motion made to approve November minutes by Ms. Lawler, seconded by Ms. Koch and unanimously approved.	5 Min
<b>General Admin</b> (Adam Duckworth)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christian Crossroads</li> <li>• January EOSC Meeting Date</li> <li>• Team Member Renewals (Mr. Duckworth, Ms. Petzinger, Ms. Koch)</li> <li>• Standard Work for Wetlands LOI Response</li> <li>• DVRPC – Chris Linn</li> <li>• Red Mill Property Acquisition                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ordinance passed by Township Committee authorizing acquisition</li> <li>○ NJCF approved grant to RHA (~\$27K)</li> <li>○ NJCF approved drawback to LT (~\$122K)</li> <li>○ Pending optional Highlands Council grant of 50%</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	10 Min

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	<p><b>Minutes:</b> Mr. Duckworth asked if the January EOSC meeting date was OK with everyone since it falls on a holiday. The team said that was fine.</p> <p>Ms. Petzinger stated she had not had a chance to post the standard work for Wetlands LOI responses to Slack yet but would do so.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth mentioned that Chris Linn from DVRPC contacted him recently about the Township's participation as a use case. Mr. Duckworth noted this was for awareness and he had not had an opportunity to contact him.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth shared some of the highlights from the work Committeeman Schmidt is doing to pursue acquisition of the "Red Mill Road" property</p> <p>Ms. Petzinger, Ms. Koch and Mr. Duckworth all stated their interest in renewing their terms. Mr. Duckworth stated he would share that outcome with Mayor Laul. This results in an updated Committee Roster as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="415 758 1360 1255"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name</th> <th>Role</th> <th>Term</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Adam Duckworth</td> <td>Chair, Planning Board Liaison</td> <td>3-yr. 2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sharon Petzinger</td> <td>Member</td> <td>3-yr. 2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Warren Newman</td> <td>Member</td> <td>3-yr. 2017</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nancy Lawler</td> <td>Member</td> <td>3-yr. 2018</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Erik Henriksen</td> <td>Member</td> <td>3-yr. 2017</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deb Goodsite</td> <td>Member</td> <td>3-yr. 2018</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adam Mickley</td> <td>Member</td> <td>3-yr. 2017</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sharon Hardy</td> <td>Alternate 1</td> <td>2-yr. 2017</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kathryn Koch</td> <td>Alternate 2</td> <td>2-yr. 2018</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Ms. Lawler noted that she and Mr. Henriksen met with Director of Christian Crossroads. It was unclear to them where they should go within the Township for guidance on certain projects. The property has a lot of buildings and a very large septic system resulting in great amount of impervious surface. There is a large pond (~1 acre) on the property, which is regulated by the DEP because there is a dam above 5' and requires periodic inspection. Christian Crossroads has until a certain time period to address DEP concerns. Ms. Lawler connected them with Raritan Headwaters Association (RHA) and plans to have a second meeting with them.</p> <p>Amzie Clawson, a Life Scout in Lebanon Township, presented a proposal for his Eagle Scout project. The proposal outlined potential work on the Goracy trailhead, including parking area maintenance/expansion and brush clearance at the trailhead. Mr. Clawson stated the project would cost ~\$1000 and the Township would be required to fund it. Mr. Newman noted the existing parking lot material is crushed concrete from a demolished DPW project. Ms. Hardy asked about funding the project through a previous trail grant. Mr. Duckworth responded that there is a couple of thousand dollars we could use from that grant and that it is one of a few possible funding sources. Mr. Duckworth asked the committee if there was anyone that felt this project was not a priority for EOSC in 2017 and no one voiced their concern.</p>	Name	Role	Term	Adam Duckworth	Chair, Planning Board Liaison	3-yr. 2019	Sharon Petzinger	Member	3-yr. 2019	Warren Newman	Member	3-yr. 2017	Nancy Lawler	Member	3-yr. 2018	Erik Henriksen	Member	3-yr. 2017	Deb Goodsite	Member	3-yr. 2018	Adam Mickley	Member	3-yr. 2017	Sharon Hardy	Alternate 1	2-yr. 2017	Kathryn Koch	Alternate 2	2-yr. 2018	
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	<p>Mr. Duckworth asked for a motion to approve support of Amzie's Eagle Scout project pending clarity on specific scope of work and funding source. Ms. Lawler made the motion, Ms. Koch seconded and it was unanimously approved.</p> <p>Mayor Laul was present by this time. Mr. Duckworth asked Mr. Laul about the appropriate process for expanding a parking area. Mr. Laul stated that we did not have to worry about these details at this point yet and that the Scouting organization is very flexible for Mr. Clawson to adapt to the work as these details become more defined after his project is approved by the Scouts. Mr. Laul stated that EOSC does not need to come to Township Committee for approval of property maintenance activities unless we are asking for DPW time. Mr. Mickley raised concerns over property maintenance agreements and restrictions on impervious surface and signage; he said he would follow up with NJ Water Supply Authority. Mr. Mickley also suggested we consider updating property maintenance agreements to allow for addendums to add properties in the future considering the Goracy and Red Mill Road acquisitions on the horizon.</p>	
<b>Newsletter</b>	<p>Spring newsletter deadline is February 1<sup>st</sup>. Articles on the docket include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Well Testing (Nancy Lawler)</li> <li>• Mosquito Control (Adam Mickley)</li> <li>• Litter Cleanup (Maria Naccarato)</li> <li>• Fire Risk Reduction – Brush/Forest (Erik Henriksen w/LTFD)</li> <li>• Emerald Ash Borer (Sharon Petzinger) ADDED</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> Ms. Petzinger suggested we write an article about the Emerald Ash Borer and the potential impact to residents of the Township. She shared concern for ash trees near municipal buildings or along trails that may need to be removed for safety reasons. Ms. Petzinger raised the question of treating ash trees before they get infected? Ms. Lawler asked about the treatment. Ms. Petzinger stated that one can inject single trees or for larger expanses of forest, parasitic wasps which feed on the emerald ash borer can be used. Ms. Lawler noted that treatment was very expensive.</p>	10 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>	15 Min

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<p><b>Correspondence</b></p>	<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 pre-submitted.</li> </ul> <p><b>Minutes:</b> Ms. Lawler stated that the North America Butterfly Association (NABA) reached out and is interested in sharing resources with us; they want to come to talk to us. The team acknowledged that we'd like them to do so.</p> <p>Committeeman Schmidt provided an update on the "Red Mill Property" acquisition. He indicated that the Highlands Council will be deciding in February how to allocate an \$18MM settlement from PSE&amp;G across development credits and open space acquisition. He stated we have the funding to move forward with the purchase now, but prefer to wait until the decision is made regarding the Highlands Grant. Additionally, there is a Green Acres grant that can potentially be used as part of the funding. Mr. Schmidt also noted there was some confusion with property lines as the last survey done was from the early 1900s and used non-permanent markers to define the property boundaries.</p> <p>Committeeman Schmidt then provided an update on the "Pelio" property. Ingrid Vandegaer is the project lead at NJ Conservation Foundation. He stated that "Pelio" consists of 5 or 6 different lots totaling ~244 acres. The overall asking price appears to be ~\$1.8MM. Mr. Schmidt suggested there would be a lot of support for acquisition of this and suggested we pursue a Green Acres grant. He indicated we should have a liaison from Green Acres and Ms. Lawler volunteered to follow up to identify who that is.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth asked for a motion to support pursuit of a Green Acres application, in conjunction with other conservation groups, for "Pelio" acquisition. Ms. Lawler made the motion, Ms. Hardy seconded and there was unanimous approval.</p> <p>Ms. Lawler stated that we need to put some thought into naming the trail something other than Goracy.</p>	<p>5 Min</p>
<p><b>Portfolio Review</b></p>	<p>Project Leads to provide status report and next steps for active and upcoming 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>• Energy Gold (Pepperman)</li> <li>• Open Space and Preserved Property Mapping (Duckworth)</li> <li>• Bunnvale Grant (Hardy)</li> <li>• Farm Passport Challenge (Duckworth)</li> <li>• Goracy Trail (Hardy)</li> <li>• Memorial Park Bio-Blitz</li> <li>• Recycling Actions (Mickley)</li> <li>• NJ Water Supply Property Agreement Refresh (Mickley)</li> </ul> <p><b>Minutes:</b> Mr. Duckworth stated there were pre-submitted updates for most ongoing projects and asked the team if there were any questions or comments. Mr. Duckworth noted that there was appraisal approval for the neighboring Goracy acquisition at February Township Committee meeting.</p>	<p>Offline</p>



Topic	Intent/Materials	Time
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<p>Introduce for discussion any special topics outside of the standard agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2017 Well Testing Event Planning</li> </ul> <p><b>Minutes:</b> The team decided on May 6<sup>th</sup> as the target date for the well testing program. Ms. Lawler will confirm this date with RHA.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10PM. The motion was made by Ms. Lawler, seconded by Ms. Koch and unanimously approved.</p>	15 Min