

Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission Meeting Minutes

September 18th, 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.

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

MEETING MINUTES

Topic	Intent/Materials
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 7:07PM. All Commission members were present. Others in attendance include Mayor Laul & Committeeman Schmidt. Mara Tippet, representative from Raritan Headwaters Association (RHA), was also present in the audience.</p>
Presentation of Minutes	<p>Review and approval of August Meeting Minutes. The following commission members are approving minutes based on their attendance at the August meeting: Mr. Duckworth, Mr. Newman, Ms. Lawler, Ms. Hardy, Mr. Mickley and Ms. Koch.</p> <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth asked for a motion to approve August Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Ms. Hardy, seconded by Mr. Newman and unanimously approved.</p>

Topic	Intent/Materials
General Admin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Petzinger will post a summary of both Goracy bird surveys • Mr. Henriksen to follow up on County Shade Commission support <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth asked Mr. Henriksen if he had been able to connect with anyone from the Country Shade Tree Commission. Mr. Henriksen stated that he learned that Mr. Robert Becker was in charge. Mr. Henriksen has his contact information and will follow-up with him before the next meeting.</p> <p>Ms. Petzinger stated that the results of the Goracy bird survey have been posted to Slack.</p>
Newsletter	<p>Winter newsletter deadline November 1st. Articles to be submitted include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well Testing Results (Ms. Koch) <p>Backlog: Proper Use of Pesticides and Herbicides, Organic Methods, Invasive Species</p> <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth reminded the team of the November 1st winter newsletter article submission deadline and asked if there were any articles planned other than the well testing results article that Ms. Koch will prepare. There were none.</p>
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=0B14m3wFylheUWjBjNEkwaU4TGc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suburban Consulting Engineers – B38/L55 – Notice of Application for Flood Hazard Permit • Suburban Consulting Engineers – B38/L55 – Notice of Application for Freshwater Wetlands Permit • Raritan Headwaters – August 28th, 2017 – Notice of free workshop: <i>Informing Residents of the Health Effects of Arsenic in Drinking Water and the Need to Test and Treat Private Wells</i> <p>Minutes: Ms. Petzinger stated that she had reviewed the correspondence for B38/L55 prior to the meeting and there was nothing of concern.</p>

Topic	Intent/Materials
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 (Duckworth) • Bunnvale Grant (Hardy) • Goracy Trail (Hardy) • Recycling Actions (Mickley) • Red Mill Road (Schmidt) • Pt. Mountain/Teetertown Link (Schmidt) <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) <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth stated that reports would not be reviewed during the meeting but team members could raise highlights or questions during the final roundtable.</p>
Focus Topics	<p>A select set of topics that require deeper discussion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest Presentation: Well Testing Result Summary by Raritan Headwaters Association • Open Space & Recreation Plan Update • Property Maintenance Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Brainstorming Activity ○ <i>If a preserved open space property were perfectly maintained, it would...</i> • LT Fall Festival Participation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “Know, Feel, Do” Activity ○ Preparation Volunteers <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth provided an overview of the property assessment that was completed and the draft recommendation of properties that would be recommended to the Planning Board for inclusion in the Open Space & Recreation Plan (OSRP) update. Mr. Duckworth also reviewed a draft presentation with the team and asked for their input.</p> <p>Ms. Petzinger stated that she compiled a list of 24 properties that should be identified as a preservation priority. She provided the list to Mr. Duckworth for inclusion and stated that the reason these were important were to create “ecological corridors”. She suggested this be included as one of the criteria as noted in the presentation.</p> <p>All team members were supportive of the proposal. Ms. Hardy recommended that the motion to approve the recommendation be split as she needed to recuse herself from voting on the properties at B66/L16 and B66/L3.08.</p>

Topic	Intent/Materials
	<p>Mr. Duckworth asked for a motion to approve the proposed presentation with adjustments as discussed and current list of preservation priorities, excluding B66/L16 and B66/L3.08, for discussion with Planning Board at their meeting on 19-Sep-2017. The motion was made by Mr. Henriksen, seconded by Ms. Koch and unanimously approved.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth then asked for a motion to approve the inclusion of B66/L16 and B66/L3.08 as preservation priorities. The motion was made by Mr. Newman, seconded by Ms. Lawler and unanimously approved by all except for Ms. Hardy who had recused herself from the vote.</p> <p>Moving on to the guest presentation, Mr. Duckworth acknowledged Mara Tippet and handed the floor to her to review the results of the well testing event earlier in the year. Ms. Tippet introduced herself and stated that Lebanon Township had a record year for number of well tests ordered. She reviewed the results with the Commission and stated it was very important to encourage residents to test for E.coli and coliform every year. Ms. Tippet will share the digital version of the presentation with EOSC after the meeting.</p> <p>Note that Mr. Newman had to leave during the RHA presentation.</p> <p>After Ms. Tippet's presentation, Mr. Duckworth reminded the team that at the previous meeting, there was a lot of interest from the team to begin thinking about maintenance of preserved properties. Mr. Duckworth stated he would like to take the team through a brainstorming activity in order to quickly gather a diverse set of ideas for what a property maintenance plan should include. He provided post-it notes to the team and gave them three minutes to jot down as many ideas as possible to complete the sentence: <i>If a preserved open space property were perfectly maintained, it would...</i></p> <p>Each team member read their ideas aloud and then the post-it notes were provided to Mr. Collett to be transcribed to a digital file and affinitized into categories.</p> <p>After the property maintenance brainstorming activity, Mr. Duckworth stated that EOSC has been asked to participate in the Lebanon Township Fall Festival on October 14th. He asked who from the team would be able to attend. Ms. Petzinger and Mr. Henriksen stated they would not be able to attend. Ms. Lawler stated she could be there until ~1PM and can help set up beforehand. Mr. Collett also stated he could take an earlier shift. Ms. Koch can be there the full day and Mr. Mickley could be there most of the day, perhaps the full day. Ms. Lawler and Ms. Koch volunteered to help prepare for the event.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth then stated he would like to perform another brainstorming activity with the team to determine what the team's objectives should be at the Fall Festival. On additional post-it notes, he asked each team member to write down three things that they would want a community member to know, feel and do after leaving the fall festival. Team members completed the activity and read their ideas aloud. Mr. Duckworth collected the post-it notes to transcribe them to a digital format and affinitize them. He, Ms. Lawler and Ms. Koch will then determine the activities and materials needed for the Fall Festival.</p> <p>Note that Mr. Mickley left during the Know/Feel/Do brainstorming activity.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10PM. Mr. Henriksen made the motion, Mr. Collett seconded and it was unanimously approved by the remaining members.</p>

Attachment 1: Reports

Program Reports

Well Testing

Nothing to report.

Litter Cleanup

Nothing to report.

Project Reports

Open Space and Preserved Property Mapping

As per Mr. Duckworth on 18-Sep-2017, OSRP is a topic of focus at the September 18th EOSC meeting and will be discussed at the meeting.

Bunnvale Grant

As per Ms. Hardy on 17-Sep-2017, the Township was recently notified by the DEP that the grant application was not accepted.

Goracy Trail

As per Ms. Hardy on 17-Sep-2017, the purchase contract is under review by the property owner's lawyer with a call between the property owner and her lawyer scheduled for the week of the 18th. An update from the property owner is expected during the week of the 22nd.

Recycling Actions

No report submitted.

NJ Water Supply Property Agreement Refresh

No report submitted.

Point Mountain to Teetertown Link

As per Committeeman Schmidt on 17-Sep-2017, NJ Conservation Foundation (NJCF) expects notification on additional grant applications within a few weeks. Green Acres is still reviewing appraisals and other documentation required to move forward.

Red Mill Road

As per Committeeman Schmidt on 17-Sep-2017, RHA and Township attorneys are finalizing documentation to access funds from the County and Green Acres with a property closing expected in a matter of weeks. A specific date for the closing has not yet been determined.

Administrative Reports

EOSC Budget (Duckworth)

No report submitted.

Planning Board (Duckworth)

As per Mr. Duckworth on 16-Sep-2017, there has not been a Planning Board meeting since the last EOSC meeting on August 21st. The next Planning Board meeting is on September 19th, at which the initial OSRP draft will be presented by Township Planner, Mike Bolan. EOSC will present its own property analysis and proposal for inclusion in the OSRP.

Highlands Act (Duckworth)

No report submitted.

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

As per Mr. Henriksen on 18-Sep-2017, the William Penn Foundation has announced that in January they will begin prioritizing Lebanon Township properties for preservation based on contribution to water quality. Mr. Henriksen will alert EOSC of the available funding once known.

Raritan Headwaters Association (Lawler)

No report submitted.

Sustainable Jersey (Duckworth)

No report submitted.