

Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission

Agenda

February 1st, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

In compliance with the “Open Public Meetings Act”, notice has been given that the Lebanon Township Environmental and Open Space Commission hosts its regular meetings on the first Monday of every month. Notice of this meeting was published in the Hunterdon County Democrat. This February meeting will be hosted via Zoom due to the COVID pandemic.

AGENDA

Topic	Description
Kickoff, Roll Call & Connecting Moment	Call meeting to order and take roll call.
Presentation of Minutes	Review and approval of January 2021 Meeting Minutes. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• January – all approving except Mr. Chen
Old Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open Space Acquisition Updates<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Miquin-Goracy Link (Hardy)b. Whitehall Properties (Schmidt)c. Miquin-Woodglen Link (aka. Bohn Property) (Duckworth)• Litter Cleanup (Duckworth)• Upcoming studies along the Musconetcong (Lawler)• Well Testing (May 22nd) (Koch)
New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tire Recycling (Lawler)• NJ Forest Stewardship Bills (Petzinger)
Newsletter	Spring newsletter deadline is February 1 st .
Correspondence	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 https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B14m3wFylheUWjBjNEkwalU4TGc <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None

Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission

Minutes

February 1st, 2021

ROLL CALL

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

MEETING MINUTES

Topic	Description
Kickoff, Roll Call & Connecting Moment	<p>Call meeting to order and take roll call.</p> <p>Minutes: The EOSC members noted above were present. There were no other attendees.</p>
Presentation of Minutes	<p>Review and approval of January 2021 Meeting Minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">January – all approving except Mr. Chen <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth asked if there were any comments on the proposed January Meeting Minutes. There were none. A motion to approve January Minutes was made by Ms. Koch, seconded by Ms. Petzinger and unanimously approved.</p>
Old Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Open Space Acquisition Updates<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Miquin-Goracy Link (Hardy)b. Whitehall Properties (Schmidt)c. Miquin-Woodglen Link (aka. Bohn Property) (Duckworth)Litter Cleanup (Duckworth)Upcoming studies along the Musconetcong (Lawler)Well Testing (May 22nd) (Koch) <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth opened the floor for updates on open space activities. Ms. Hardy stated there was no new information regarding the Miquin—Goracy link. She will continue to follow up. Mayor Schmidt stated appraisals were ready to begin pending Township Committee approval for the Whitehall Properties. Mr. Duckworth stated there was no new information on the Miquin-Woodglen Link; next steps were still with Mr. Bohn but Adam would reach out to see how it was going.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth stated that resident, Maria Naccarato, was willing to oversee the litter cleanup again this year. Last year we had it but did not advertise it due to the unknowns associated with the early days of the COVID pandemic. Mr. Duckworth asked if the Commission felt like we should do it this year. Ms. Koch stated it was important to do this year. Ms. Lawler also supported it and stated that Ms. Fascenelli would like to be aware of any data collection we can do. There is an app that allows you to log what you find. Ms. Lawler will send that to Mr. Duckworth after the meeting. Mr. Duckworth asked for a motion to approve the 2021 litter</p>

Topic	Description
	<p>cleanup event to be led by Maria Naccarato and sponsored by the LT EOSC. The motion was made by Ms. Lawler, seconded by Ms. Koch and unanimously approved.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth handed the floor to Ms. Lawler to provide an update on the upcoming Musconetcong River studies. Ms. Lawler stated she passed on our requests to the MWA. They did include a site on the Derry Run (along Hollow Road) already. There is also already a site at Hampton Boro Park, which would measure the health of the river leaving LT. They have not yet decided on a site upstream from us. They are currently looking for funding for interns. Ms. Lawler, Ms. Petzinger and Mr. Duckworth could partner to volunteer for the site on Derry Run. MWA can do a presentation for us when initiation of the study gets closer.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth acknowledged Ms. Koch for her recent receipt of the RHA "Volunteer of the Year" award. There was much applause. He handed her the floor to provide an update on well testing. Well testing is set for May 22nd. RHA has a new brochure which includes prices. Mr. Newman has agreed to volunteer on the 22nd. The plan is to have it out in front of Municipal building. Ms. Koch agreed to do some legwork along Musconetcong River Road to raise awareness and encourage residents to turn out for the event. Mr. Duckworth and Ms. Lawler offered to help hang mailbox info. Ms. Lawler stated that if we need addresses for the road then connect with MWA as they can help. RHA will send postcards. Ms. Koch will hang flyers around town.</p>
New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tire Recycling (Lawler) • NJ Forest Stewardship Bills (Petzinger) <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth moved on to new business and handed the floor to Ms. Lawler to discuss tire recycling. Ms. Lawler stated she spoke to Ms. Fasenelli. Clean Communities requires us to chip the tires rather than burn them if we want to use that funding source. Big tires could be quite costly to recycle. What are everyone's thoughts on how we can mitigate cost? Should people have to pay? Mr. Duckworth stated we could offer a certain amount, like the first four, free? There was general concern about charging people as that would cause people now to turn out, especially the people who would tend to dump them illegally. Mr. Collett asked how the Township is charged? By weight? By tire? Ms. Petzinger stated we shouldn't charge, especially with COVID and current state of economy. Ms. Lawler stated the earliest we could have this is the Fall. She is exploring if Clean Communities could cover the cost.</p> <p>Ms. Lawler also asked if the Commission was interested in a fluorescent tube recycling program or event? Mr. Collett stated that Lowes will take CFLs but not tubes. Ms. Koch said she would reach out and ask them.</p> <p>Ms. Petzinger asked about the hunting program and said she is willing to help get that moving. Mr. Duckworth and Mr. Chen acknowledged they have not had a chance to make progress on that but would ask Sharon for help if needed.</p> <p>Ms. Petzinger introduced two new Forest Stewardship bills being discussed at the NJ state level. She reiterated her support of our pending hunting program and said that any forest stewardship plan would not be successful unless we manage the deer herd first. A copy of one of the slides she shared is pasted below.</p>

Topic	Description
	<h2>New Forest Stewardship Bills to Discuss</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A4843 – Requires state and local government units, and qualifying non-profit organizations, to prepare and implement forest stewardship plans for lands >25 acres acquired for the purpose of recreation and conservation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Per the Highlands Act, LT is already required to have a forest management, stewardship plan, or a <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HPAA to cut forests > 1 acre in size (including selective tree cutting) or • GP-1 for any “cutting, burning or otherwise managing vegetation in order to increase habitat diversity or control nuisance flora” in or near wetlands • FHA GP 8 for herbicide or excessive clearing and cutting if vegetation in the riparian zone <p>Ms. Lawler stated this is a good bill. If private landowners need to have Forest Stewardship Plans then we should, as well. Fisher would be a good property to experiment with. Mr. Duckworth asked if Highlands Planning grants could be used for this? Ms. Lawler said she would follow up on that. Mr. Collett asked what creation of a Plan entails. Ms. Petzinger stated it typically starts with a Forester doing a survey of the property and they break the site up into different stands, then can work with us as a landowner on what to do in each stand. Ms. Hardy asked what the cost would be. Ms. Petzinger stated it is typically a 10-year plan and would probably cost a few thousand dollars per property. Ms. Lawler stated that NJ Audubon could help with that and would reach out to a contact who is a Forester to get some additional information.</p>
Newsletter	Summery newsletter deadline is February 1 st .
Correspondence	<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 https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B14m3wFylheUWjBjNEkwalU4TGc</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth asked if there were any other topics. There were none. A motion was made by Mr. Collett to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm. It was seconded by Mr. Duckworth and unanimously approved.</p>