

Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission (EOSC) Agenda

November 7th, 2022

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 at the Lebanon Township Municipal Building.

AGENDA

Kickoff & Roll Call

Presentation of Minutes

- N/A

Old Business

- None

New Business

- Preservation Opportunity: Block 49, Lot 76 “Tullo” (See Summary in Appendix - 1)
- NJ Aquifer Data (Petzinger)

Correspondence

- None

Open Comment

Appendix

1. Summary of Block 49, Lot 76 Preservation Opportunity - "Tullo"

- Landowner, Dave Tullo, reached out to EOSC Chairman, Adam Duckworth, on 21-Sep-2022 after speaking with another resident who was pursuing open space preservation for their property.
- This is a 5.2-acre parcel that borders one existing preserved parcel of Anthony Preserve.
- Mr. Tullo expressed an interest in preserving the property.
- Mayor Schmidt and Mr. Duckworth met with Mr. Tullo at the property for a walk-through on 14-Oct-2022.
- The property is not very wooded and was previously farmed as per Mr. Tullo. There is some old fencing around the border. Mr. Tullo has indicated it is a buildable lot. There are no structures on the property.
- The property is close to the Spruce Run but does not encompass any of it. Quite a bit of the Spruce Run riparian area is within the property. The property is very wet.
- Next step is to motion in support of or against this preservation opportunity so that Township Committee can consider approval to initiate engagement with Green Acres.

Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission (EOSC)

Meeting Minutes

November 7th, 2022

Roll Call

EOSC Member	Role	Roll Call
Adam Duckworth	Chairman, Planning Board Liaison	Present
Sharon Petzinger	Member	Present
Warren Newman	Member	Regrets
Erik Jan Henriksen	Member	Present
Nancy Lawler	Member	Present
Kathy Koch	Member	Present
Sharon Hardy	Member	Regrets
Mike Chen	Alternate 1	Regrets
Marty Collett	Alternate 2	Present

In addition to those members mentioned above, Mayor Schmidt was in attendance and two individuals in the audience.

Preservation Opportunity: Block 49, Lot 76 “Tullo”

Mr. Duckworth introduced the preservation opportunity. Ms. Lawler stated there had been a previous discussion on this property awhile back and perhaps an offer that the landowner had turned down. Mayor Schmidt stated that from the landowner’s perspective, the Township had turned it down. Mr. Duckworth agreed to follow up with Clerk Sandorse to see if there was a previous assessment that had been done. Ms. Lawler stated she would review her files, as well. There may have previously been a barn on the property. We should look at the aerials. There was broad agreement that this property was a valuable preservation opportunity. Mr. Duckworth asked for a motion to support the preservation of Block 49 Lot 76 and initiate preparation of the Green Acres Pre-appraisal Questionnaire. The motion was made by Mr. Henriksen, seconded by Ms. Koch and unanimously approved. Mayor Schmidt stated this can go on the agenda for Township Committee next week.

Mayor Schmidt also provided an update on two open space opportunities previously discussed. Regarding the Nicholson III parcel, we do not need to prepare a new pre-appraisal

questionnaire as the previous one is still valid. Regarding the Piazza parcel, there is no update yet.

NJ Aquifer Data

Ms. Petzinger provided an overview of three maps that provide insight into the Township's aquifer status. They suggest that the Township is using more water from the aquifer than is being recharged back to it. Mr. Duckworth asked if we could make this part of the assessment for Forest Stewardship Planning. Ms. Petzinger said yes. Mr. Henriksen noted MWA has a program encouraging residents to "push the lawn back". Ms. Petzinger stated we might be able to get a grant to do newer aquifer testing.

There was discussion amongst the Commission. There is not much development going on in the Township but there is additional impervious surface from swimming pools, pole barns and other accessory structures or home additions. Ms. Lawler suggested it might be valuable to have a hydrogeologist come to speak with us.

Open Comment

The public stated they would like to learn more about rain gardens or perhaps there is a grant for rain barrels for residents. Ms. Lawler said she would like to reach out to the Environmental Sciences Academy regarding this. Mr. Duckworth stated he would reach out to Darin about opportunities for scouts to run a rain barrel workshop.

A motion was made by Ms. Koch to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Ms. Petzinger and unanimously approved.