

**Lebanon Township Environmental and Open Space Commission (EOSC)
October 7, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting called to order by Ms. Petzinger at 7:08 pm. No members of the public were in the audience.

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.

ROLL CALL

EOSC Member	Role	Roll Call
Sharon Petzinger	Member, Chair	Present
Warren Newman	Member	Present
Marty Collett	Member	Absent
Nancy Roberts-Lawler	Member, MRMC Councilor	Present
Constance Grill	Member	Present
Sharon Hardy	Member	Present
Linda Ryan	Member, EOSC Planning Board Member	Present
Celia Vuocolo	Alternate I	Absent
Nina Weiland	Alternate II	Absent

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

The August 2024 Regular Meeting minutes were presented by Ms. Petzinger.

Ms. Roberts-Lawler made a motion to accept the August meeting minutes as amended, seconded by Ms. Grill, and unanimously approved with one abstention.

The September 2024 Regular Meeting minutes were presented by Ms. Petzinger.

Mr. Newman made a motion to accept the September meeting minutes as amended, seconded by Ms. Grill, and unanimously approved with two abstentions.

UPDATES

Ms. Petzinger reported that ANJEC had not yet responded to the inquiries about joining late and conducting a road show prior to December 2024. EOSC members agreed it was too late to pursue this further in 2024, but EOSC should join ANJEC as soon as the Township budget is approved in 2025. Ms. Roberts-Lawler, Ms. Ryan, and Ms. Grill agreed to look into the purchase of sandwich boards to advertise for well testing, plant swaps, and other EOSC events.

BUSINESS

Trail creation/maintenance: EOSC members discussed what would be needed to hold a volunteer event to create and/or maintain foot trails on Township-owned open space. The event needs to be covered by township insurance which may require registration, possibly a liability waiver, and supervision. Volunteers should bring their own tools (loppers, gloves, etc.)

and invitations to volunteers should be clear about age requirements, the need to wear long pants/sleeves, etc. Ms. Ryan volunteered to contact the Township Clerk to find out more information on what is needed to get a volunteer group organized.

Ms. Grill and Ms. Ryan volunteered to scout Anthony Preserve at Flintlock Place for feasibility in creating or maintaining trails outside the wetlands transition area.

Ms. Petzinger will determine if the boardwalk along Woodglen-Miquin Trail can be removed in sections and work with Mr. Collett and others to get an estimate of cost and supplies needed to repair the boardwalk. Ms. Petzinger will also work with Mr. Collett to scout the wetlands and check the boundaries.

LIAISON UPDATES

- MWA – Ms. Roberts-Lawler stated she will be attending the Northwest Rivers Conference will be held on Oct. 18, 2024 at Centenary.
- RHA – Ms. Hardy stated there is nothing to report.
- MRMC – Ms. Roberts-Lawler stated the next meeting is on Tuesday, Oct. 15.
- Highlands Council – Mr. McKee was absent.
- Planning Board – Ms. Ryan stated that the Township Planner reviewed the proposed NJReal proposed rule changes and commented that there may be some impacts to the Township, but those impacts would not substantially increase municipal burden or restrict residents.

OTHER TOPICS/HIGHLIGHTS

- Member Roundtable – Ms. Hardy stated that Karizma applied for a variance from the Township Zoning Board, which was denied.
- Correspondence – EOSC received notification of a permit application for a new residential home and driveway near the end of Old Farm Rd. It appears the home will be located >150ft but < 300ft from the Spruce Run Tributary, which is a FW2-TPC1 stream, and part of the driveway will be in the wetlands transition area. Ms. Petzinger and Ms. Roberts-Lawler will look into it further and determine if there are concerns.

Ms. Ryan made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Grill, and unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 pm.