

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**  
**JUNE 1, 2021 MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Hendrickson calls the meeting to order at 7:04 pm and announced that all laws governing the Open Public Meetings Act have been met and that this meeting has been duly advertised.

**A. ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Neil Hendrickson, Robert Becker, Steve Foster, Mario Orlandi, Susan Masinda, and Jeff Charney.

Jonathan Heller joined soon after the meeting started.

Jerry Cook joined mid-meeting.

**Absent:** Todd Terricone

**B. MINUTES:**

Discussion regarding the water park at Cornhuskers was brought up. This discussion will be moved to later in the meeting.

Robert Becker moved and Steve Foster second, motion to approve the minutes for May 4, 2021. All unanimously who were at the May meeting approved.

**C. LOI/FRESHWATER WETLANDS:**

Freshwater Wetlands Letter: Block 64, Lot 19.01

**D. AOC (AREAS OF CONCERN):**

None

**E. CORRESPONDENCE:**

None

**F. NEW BUSINESS:**

Water Park at Cornhuskers:

Members requested more information from the Recreation Department regarding what they are proposing.

**G. OTHER BUSINESS:**

**G1. Environmental Resource Inventory - NJUCF 2021 Stewardship Grant**

A discussion took place regarding updating or recreating the Environmental Resource Inventory. The paper maps need updating and the documents are low resolution. Robert Becker pointed out that many, if not all maps, are currently digital in high resolution on the NJ Maps application. ANJEC will be having a training course on this.

## **G2. Adopt-A-Road Update**

Neil Hendrickson mentioned he talked to Scott from the DPW regarding which roads are prime candidates in this process.

Clean Communities involvement and the Clean Communities Coordinator was generally discussed.

## **G3. Forestry Management Bill Update**

Forestry Management Bill was opposed by many states' environmental groups; therefore, it was sent back to the appropriate Committee.

## **G4. Hionis Greenhouse Update**

Zoning and Code Enforcement are acting on it.

## **G5. Grant Update**

Steve Foster mentioned the 319H chart shows that it closes out on June 30<sup>th</sup>, but the DEP moved it out to November 30<sup>th</sup> due to COVID-19.

2021 Open Space Stewardship Grant Program Update

ANJEC Grant Announcement – Not discussed during this meeting.

## **G6. Sub Committee Updates**

Deer Management Subcommittee:

Adam Mueller created a presentation regarding Deer Management Reports and Deer Management Program recommendations. The presentation consisted of online harvest reporting, signage, club lease edits, renewals, limit club properties, harvest donations, firearms, quiet hours, and community outreach. During the 2020/2021 season, the Township issued permits for 20 individuals and signed leases with 5 clubs. The individual permit holders increased their harvest by 236% over last reasons harvest data.

The Wildlife Advisory Subcommittee program goal is to manage white-tailed deer populations with Readington Township at socially acceptable levels that provide recreational and educational opportunities as well as provide opportunity for maintaining and preserving a healthy woodland habitat. Another goal is to provide educational programs such as nature walks, formal presentations, and informal conversations.

Unmarked and unused tree stands were brought up for discussion and proposed to be taken down.

Adam Mueller requested a vote of support to send recommendations to the Township Committee.

Jerry Cook moved and Jeff Charney second, motion of support by the Environmental Commission for this program to be presented to the Township Committee. This will include revisions of Sunday bow hunting on properties with no posted trail system or horse activity.

Susan Masinda opposed.

No further comments.

**H. OTHER COMMENTS:**

Steve Foster mentioned a Raritan Headwaters seminar coming up regarding storm water.

Robert Becker inquired about Republic and the breakdown of invoices. The current contract is for three years and expires end of 2021. The contractor is required to reimburse the Township for revenue for the sale of recyclable materials. Johnathan Heller explained that the contract is approved yearly, and it fluctuates based on tonnage.

**I. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:00 pm. In order to comply with all NJ Executive Orders and to protect members of the public, current meetings will be held virtually for all parties until such time when in-person meetings can safely resume while complying with all NJ Executive Orders. When in-person meetings resume, they shall be held at Readington Township Municipal Building, 509 Route 523, Whitehouse Station, New Jersey 08889.

Respectfully submitted,

*Shannon Long*

Approved: 8/31/2021