

**Readington Township
Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes
March 7, 2023**

OPEN MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hendrickson at 7:05 p.m. stating that the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been met and that this meeting had been duly advertised.

Members in Attendance

Neil Hendrickson - Chair
Robert Becker
Jeff Charney
Jerry Cook
Steve Foster
Jonathan Heller
Susan Masinda
Mario Orlandi
Cassandra Ward

Minutes

It was moved and seconded, to approve the minutes for February 7, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.

LOI/Freshwater Wetlands

None

AOC (Areas of Concern)

None

Correspondence

1. CTM Environmental- Potable Well Sampling - 547 Route 22 E

The correspondence was noted and members discussed the history of this location.

New Business

1. Report from Somerville Environmental Commission Meeting

Chair Hendrickson attended the February Environmental Commission meeting in Somerville. They have an active social media presence. A major concern they discussed had to do with the flooding issues caused by Peters Brook. They lack the funds to remove all the dead trees. They will be using available funds to plant new seedlings. A large part of the meeting was devoted to a discussion regarding a warehouse proposal in the bordering township of Bridgewater. Major concerns are the size of the building, amount of impervious coverage, traffic concerns and adverse effects on neighboring residential areas. They discussed their work on Sustainable Jersey items and assigned tasks to each member. Unfortunately, due to shared services agreement with the County, they are unable to get points for certain items. Chair Hendrickson was asked to return at a later date and do another tree tour for them.

2. NJ Forest Stewardship Task Force Report – Feb. 2023

Chair Hendrickson stated that the report shows an agreement between foresters, ecologists and other stakeholders that will allow municipalities to manage their woodlands according to their individual needs.

3. ANJEC 2023 Environmental Commission Grants

Mr. Orlandi stated that there is no update from the Waterwatch Committee regarding this topic.

4. Stormwater Management New MSR Reporting Requirements

Mr. Becker gave a presentation outlining all the changes to the MSR Reporting Requirements and went over each point.

Other Business:

1. Deer Management

The final numbers for the 2022-2023 Deer Management Program are: Individual harvests total 164; Club harvests total 131; Total number of harvests is 295.

2. Grant application for NJ Water Grant opportunity

Ms. Masinda reported that she met with township representatives to discuss this grant opportunity. The grant application will be submitted with the Environmental Commission listed as the applicant. If the grant is awarded to Readington Township, the funds will be used for water testing on the Rockaway, specifically looking for E. coli.

3. Road Salts Testing

Some members stated that they will be taking more samples due to the recent application of both brine and salt on some of the township roads.

4. Brownfield Sites Update

Mr. Becker reviewed the contaminated site list that he generated as well as a document titled "Immediate Environmental Concern Technical Guidance". He pointed out some apparent discrepancies in the multiple documents found as well as in conversations Mr. Becker had with responsible individuals. Mr. Heller suggested that this type of list/spreadsheet be included in the Environmental Commission annual report. A starting point for this list will be the contaminated site list created by Mr. Becker. The EC will send a request to the Township Committee asking them to reach out to the DEP for current status on sites provided.

5. ERI Update

Chair Hendrickson provided a status of obtaining the information needed to update the ERI. Dr. Jay Kelly provided key information from his database at Raritan Valley Community College. Mr. Becker offered to supply a list of resources from the Natural Resource Inventory database that he maintains for the township.

6. Adopt-A-Road

Chair Hendrickson updated the members on the status of interest from the community in participating in this type of event. There was a small article that appeared in the March edition of the Readington News.

Site Plan Review and Comment

None

Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Adjournment

It was the consensus of the commission members to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Radziewicz
Advisory Boards Secretary