

**Readington Township  
Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes  
May 2, 2023**

**OPEN MEETING**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hendrickson at 7:02 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

Jonathan Heller

Susan Masinda

Mario Orlandi

Cassandra Ward

**Members Absent**

Steve Foster

**Minutes**

Mr. Cook moved and Ms. Masinda seconded, to approve the minutes for April 4, 2023, as corrected. The motion carried unanimously.

**Guest Speaker**

None

**LOI/Freshwater Wetlands**

1. Application Freshwater Wetlands LOI - 710 Route 202 - B. 81 Lot 2 - **Noted**
  
2. Application Freshwater Wetlands LOI - 68 County Line Rd - B. 9.01 Lot 3.06  
**This correspondence addresses an expansion of a warehouse in Branchburg.**

**AOC (Areas of Concern)**

None

**Correspondence**

1. NJDEP Site Remediation - 3603 Route 22 - B. 38.01 Lot 87 - **Noted**
  
2. NJDEP Site Remediation - 291 Route 22 - B. 20 Lot 6 - **Noted**
  
3. Transition Area Waiver - Block 36, Lots 5, 5.02 and 5.04  
**Members discussed the location of the work to be done and the plans for these properties. There was a brief discussion of sewer capacity and requirements to address phosphates.**

## **New Business**

### **1. Social Media Policy - Informational Purposes Only**

The members received a copy of the social media policy and members discussed the pros and cons of the new Township Facebook page and shared frustrations of various items appearing on the page.

## **Other Business:**

### **1. Tree Seedling Giveaway - Recap**

Over 1,900 seedlings were available to be given away and all were distributed. The members expressed thanks to all the volunteers with special thanks given to the CERT volunteers, Boy Scouts and the police. It was estimated that 257 cars came through the line. Other discussion items included the costs associated with obtaining the seedlings and the species of trees available.

### **2. Environmental Commission Logo Update**

Chair Hendrickson reached out to Readington Middle School asking for student involvement in designing a logo for the EC. One student provided several options for the members to select from. The members discussed the various designs and selected the simplest version as this logo will show up best on merchandise. The members floated ideas on possible changes to colors to enhance the logo. The secretary will draft a thank you email to the student that will also ask a couple of questions asking her advice on potential color changes. It was mentioned that a memo be sent to the Township Committee to recognize this student for her efforts. The members discussed various ways the logo could be used.

### **3. Brownfield Sites Update**

Mr. Becker requested that these sites be referred to as contaminated sites in the future. There was discussion on the couple of correspondence items that addressed site remediation and Ms. Ward gave a brief overview on what the correspondence means. Last month, a letter was drafted and sent from the Township regarding the contaminated sites but there has been no response from the DEP thus far.

### **4. Recycling Contract Update**

Nothing new to report.

### **5. Storm Water Management - MS4 Requirements**

Mr. Becker gave a presentation on the changes that will be required. He reminded the members where they can find current Stormwater information on the Township website. Some of the changes he presented included mapping, tree ordinance requirements and salt storage ordinance. Other items mentioned included updates to governing yard waste, litter control, wildlife feeding, pet waste, road sweeping and inspection of storm drains. Mr. Becker reviewed the timeline of the new requirements. He will also be making a presentation to the Planning Board

## **Site Plan Review and Comment**

None

**Public Comment**

No public comments.

The following items were discussed:

1. Earth Day was the same day as the tree seedling giveaway, so it was a good way to honor that day.
2. Arbor Day – There was an event planned at Echo Hill Park but unfortunately no one showed up. Chair Hendrickson went to Roebling Park, located just outside of Trenton, and many trees were planted. Representatives from the state government were supposed to attend but none did.
3. It was suggested that the EC have a table in Pickell Park after the Memorial Day Parade to engage residents in information sharing regarding activities and concerns of the EC.
4. Ash Trees – Mr. Becker wants to get a status of all treated trees. It was stated that the future of treated ash trees is reliant upon the budget and the availability of funds to continue the treatment.

**Adjournment**

It was the consensus of the commission members to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Radziewicz  
Advisory Boards Secretary