

**Readington Township Environmental Commission  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
June 4, 2024**

**OPEN MEETING:**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Becker at 7:00 p.m. stating that the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been met and that this meeting had been duly advertised.

**A) Roll Call**

Attendance	X = Present    - - - = Absent										
Member	2/6	3/5	4/2	5/7	6/4	7/2	8/6	9/10	10/1	11/12	12/3
Becker	X	X	X	X	X						
Charney	X	X	X	---	X						
Foster	X	X	X	X	X						
Giroud	X	X	X	X	X						
Heller	X	X	X	X	X						
Hendrickson	X	---	X	X	X						
Masinda	X	X	X	X	X						
Panico	X	X	X	X	X						
Ward	X	X	X	X	X						

**B) Approval of Minutes:**

6/4/2024 Minutes: Steve Foster made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Susan Masinda, and carried by all with the exception of Jeff Charney who was not present at the meeting.

**C) LOI/Freshwater Wetlands:**

None.

**D) AOC (Areas of Concern):**

**1. DEP Sites of Environmental Concern**

After the May meeting, another email was sent to DEP regarding the sites of concern. No further communication occurred to report.

**E) Correspondence:**

None.

**F) New Business:**

None.

**G) Old Business:**

**1. MLUL Resiliency Analysis: Open Discussion on Global Warming on Climate Change, what will change by how much. Impact on: Temperature, Precipitation, Water Supply, Woods, and Meadows:**

Members discussed the process of the resiliency situation analysis specific to temperature precipitation and water supply that is required in the MLUL. The Chair has put together a map. The next phase is to determine what is going to change, by how much, and what does

it all mean? The board will analyze temperature, precipitation, water supply, woods, and meadows and how well we can adapt to change. Stream banks are changing, which affects the quality of the water. Jonathan Heller said we have not done a great job of removing debris from streams because it must be done by the state and cannot be done by DPW. An increase in drought will affect agricultural land and temperature variations are affecting lengths of the seasons. We must recognize flood points and why they occur. Temperature variations are occurring and spring is coming earlier and summer lasting longer which increases stress on plants but also there are hundreds of variables. Members discussed statistics and studies on climate change. NJ is one of the areas predicted to be affected the most by precipitation, specifically Hunterdon County. The facilities identified last month have a good resiliency score as is. The goal is to create a risk analysis.

### **Rockaway Creek**

Susan reported on Rockaway Creek and her correspondence via email with Frank Kalpinski from the DEP regarding the matter. It is slowly moving up the chain of command. A summary of track down efforts and conversations has been provided to the DEP director, Vic Poretti, for his review. Potential sampling support was discussed earlier last week and if approved planning will follow.

## **2. Grants:**

Jeff discussed a meeting he is holding on the topic of EV chargers. It is considerably less complex and costly. Technologically quite advanced. In reviewing the grant, JCPL will cover the preparation costs up to 5500 but the municipality has to pay for the remaining costs. There is a certain voltage cost per use. Summer Road Park was considered as a location.

Nelson new housing development will also have high density.

Kings or the train station would also be a great location, but the township does not own those properties. The municipal building location was also discussed. Members discussed pricing and charging speed options.

Steve announced an event on June 11<sup>th</sup> 5:30 PM in Flemington at ShopRite held by Go Hunterdon, which is a group focused on sustainability, meeting at the charging stations to discuss implementation.

Jason reported on the status of the Deer Grant from DEP Fish and Wildlife sent the first initial funding for venison donations to the amount of \$5,000. That should cover the cost of 50 deer for the deer management butcher costs. 304 deer harvested last year, hopefully more can donate.

Jim Curry is taking over the complete streets technical assistance which is the analysis done on main street. Nothing further to report through EC.

The community energy plan where the consultant comes in to tell us about energy management, application is submitted. Nothing to report.

The afforestation grant, which was awarded two years ago, may get official approval shortly.

The other Forestry grant is coming to an end. Paul Cowie, the forester, has completed his results and is going to make a presentation on the state of the woodlands in Readington Township at a yet to be scheduled Township Committee meeting.

**H) Site Plan Review and Comment:**

**1. Block 25 Lot 52 - 29 Dreahook**

The EC requests that information be provided to demonstrate the containment of stormwater on the property as there will be a potential of 6000 sq ft of impervious surface.

**I) Public/Members Comment:**

Susan on airport actions. The BRACC ran an ad in the June issue Branchburg news and a flyer will be created to put on windshields at the rec fields. Sign up online on the BRACC website to receive updates

Stephanie on the Green Fair. We will be participating with Clinton Township. A kickoff meeting will be held to start the planning. Participants will also include High Bridge, Lebanon, and Clinton for a joint green fair. A series of environmentally friendly vendors and EV test driving will be available. Event schedule in September at Bundt Park.

Steve reported that WaterWatch will participate in the summer spectacular and provide turtle tattoos to the kids and have watershed maps of where turtles are typically found. They will also provide information on water testing with Raritan Headwaters.

**J) Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 8:34 p.m. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Danielle Monaghan*  
Advisory Board Secretary