

**Readington Township Environmental Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 3, 2024**

OPEN MEETING:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Becker 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.

A) Roll Call

Attendance	X = Present - - - = Absent - = Meeting Canceled										
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	X	-	X	X	=	X
Charney	X	X	X	---	X	X	-	X	X	=	X
Foster	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	=	X
Giroud	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	=	-
Heller	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	=	X
Hendrickson	X	---	X	X	X	X	-	X	---	=	X
Masinda	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	=	X
Panico	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	=	-
Ward	X	X	X	X	---	---	-	X	---	=	-

B) Approval of Minutes:

10/1/2024 minutes were approved with two changes. Jonathan Heller made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Susan Masinda, and carried by all.

C) LOI/Freshwater Wetlands:

None.

D) AOC (Areas of Concern):

1. Contaminated Sites Update:

The history of the project was reviewed. Additional questions were sent to the DEP after receiving the Readington Claims list. Questions related to testing frequency and data review of homes with POET filtration systems. Response had not been received. Member Heller agreed to develop a survey to obtain user experience with the treatment systems.

E) Correspondence:

1. Response Action Outcome: Block 39 Lot 58.01. Letter regarding that remediation efforts were completed because of sale of facility.
2. Potable Well Sampling Results Block 21.13 Lot 8. Data indicated that contamination levels are still over maximum allowed. This is a “Environmental Concern” site, Van Doren Oil PI # 006791. First time data submitted to EC.
3. Shore Point Engineering TWA Application Notice Block 81 Lot 1. Part of a communication for the Three Bridges apartment project to access Raritan Township sewer service.

F) Old Business:

- 1. MLUL Hazard Impact Score and Review:** A list of buildings and infrastructure important to the township was prepared and sent to the Fire Chief, Chief of Police, DPW, OEM, and Administrator asking to review it for content.
- 2. Project Updates: Airport, Deer Management, Sustainable Action Team, Land Stewardship, Rockaway Creek:** An update to the Solberg Airport situation is that a couple BRAC members met with Assemblymen Friedman and Drulis. Ms. Drulis was going to talk to DOT and had some suggestions for BRAC. Deer Management: the deer harvest is ahead of last year. Signage at public entry points that hunting was on property was updated. Sustainable Action Team has begun developing narratives to submit to meet action requirements. The first round is due February 23, 2025. Land Stewardship: RVCC students updating meadow status and reviewing maintenance plans. Rockaway E-coli – DEP did its first baseline test a week ago. Next will be in Spring when precipitation happens. The low level of E-coli detected was likely due to drought conditions.

G) New Business:

1. Communications on Website and Facebook

The Chairman indicated that posting requests are sent to the Mayor and Administrator. Improving communication with the public regarding environmental impacts on the community is an EC responsibility. To date, the NJ DEP allows for reposting their content. Hunterdon County, allows, only if we acknowledge them as the source. Members were asked to forward any relative material for review and posting consideration

2. Tree Ordinance

Member Hendrickson participated in a webinar addressing local tree ordinances. Concerns were discussed regarding administration and enforcement. Readington's ordinance was up to date and relevant.

3. Community Forestry

The Chairman reviewed the Community Forestry Program. There are many tree-related activities that need attention. Reports from the recent forest stand inventory project need reviewing for issues, the Township Forestry Plan is out of date and needs updating to new requirements, and planning and executing tree plantings are just a few needs. After discussion, members recommended that a higher priority be given to land stewardship activities.

4. Energy Planning Grant

The Township received a \$10,000 grant from PSE&G through Sustainable Jersey to develop a comprehensive community energy plan. The Sustainable Action Team is reviewing the suggested protocol and guidelines on just what should be done and why.

H) Site Plan Review and Comment:

None.

I) Public/Members Comment:

None.

J) Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Robert Becker, seconded by Susan Masinda at 8:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri Russo

Advisory Board Secretary