

CHESTERFIELD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

November 24, 2020

Chairperson Romeu called the meeting of the Chesterfield Township Environmental Commission to order a 7:00PM. The Open Public Meetings Act Statement was read and compliance noted.

Present Nancy Scarafile, Karl Braun; Rita Romeu, Jane Ryan; F. Gerry Spence (7:15); Denise Koetas Dale, Township Liaison. Absent: Nicole Bencivengo and Sara Dyson

MINUTES

October 22, 2020

A motion was made by Mr. Braun second by Ms. Scarafile to approve the October 22, 2020 meeting minutes. All were in favor, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

PLANNING BOARD APPLICATIONS

Lynch 34 Front St-Minor Subdivision
Fenick 463 Main St-Minor Subdivision

Mr. Braun, Ms. Scarafile and Ms. Romeu will review the plans the week of the December 1st.

DISCUSSION

Green Team Reusable Bags

Ashlyn Sethi gave an update. The bags have all been funded, they are reaching out to sponsors to get logos. They have received 25 submissions for the anti-litter campaign mostly teenagers and younger children. They would like to have a younger category to accommodate them for the prizes. They are extending the deadline to December 1st and will send the submissions to the board by mail. The Green Team and EC will get together and go over them keeping the names anonymous.

Beaver Activity

The conservation area has minor activity near the pond where they initial were. At Harness to the circle there are 5-6 trees that need to be painted, no new dens have been found. Margerum and Old York Rd the trees have beaver activity, they are living in the wetlands.

Update on Algae

Fertilizer is the number one issue, education the residents on trying to get away from fertilizer by way of social media, Facebook/Chesterfield Moms, the flyer has been sent.

We can also include them with the recycle bags. Ms. Romeu will distribute the flyer to the board. Mr. Braun the target should be at the properties where the run off goes into the ponds. Ms. Romeu suggested having a seminar.

Geese

Mr. Braun and Ms. Scarafile have been checking the ponds and found no specific reason for which ponds have the most. At Recklesstown/Saddle/Circle none have been spotted. Ms. Scarafile stated roping off an area seems to work so she will rope off all the areas to see if that will work. The geese don't go near the ponds with a lot of vegetation. Mr. Braun suggested naming all the ponds to make them easier to share details with the Township, Mayor and Administrator.

Eagle Scout Project

No update on the project Andrew Sinay was working on.

Education Seminar

A lot of residents are asking about snakes. Ms. Scarafile stated she had spoken to Ms. Bencivengo and she said she could do something in mid-December. They could possibly do a joint seminar with Bordentown City. Ms. Ryan suggested a topic for spring could be the controversy between native and exotic plants in the garden and getting that information to the community.

Shade Tree Commission

Ms. Romeu updated the board regarding the last Township meeting. They talked about the ordinance and introduced it. EC had given all their comments to the Township Committee regarding advisory vs. commission.

Tree Keeper Report

Mr. Braun stated he hadn't seen any signs of the spotted lantern fly. Ms. Ryan also hasn't seen any eggs in the areas of the new building. Ms. Romeu looked around the new building as well.

Pipeline Update and ground water testing program

Regarding Horizontal Drilling issues the NJNG had to go before the DEP and they have accepted the plan to continue the drilling. The County Engineer has not yet accepted the plan, nothing will happen until the county accepts the plan.

The ground water testing –the fall samples will be done soon. In a few months a winter test will be done.

Recycle Center

The Township is not taking oil yet. Mr. Braun will send a memo to the Township Administrator to ask about this and he will cc the EC board.

Natural Recourses Inventory

This needs to be revisited. The EC will need to hire a company to look into this. Ms. Scarafile will looking into this for the next meeting.

NOT ON THE AGENDA

None

INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Romeu opened the meeting for public, hearing none the public portion was closed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion was made by Mr. Spence second by Mr. Braun to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Aggie Napoleon, Secretary