

CHESTERFIELD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

APRIL 28, 2020

Chairperson Romeu called the meeting of the Chesterfield Township Environmental Commission to order a 7:02PM. The Open Public Meetings Act Statement was read and compliance noted.

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

MINUTES

February 25, 2020

A motion was made by Mr. Braun second by Ms. Scarafile to approve the February 25, 2020 meeting minutes. All were in favor with the exception of Mr. Spence who abstained; motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Tree City USA Bulletin
Arbor Day

PLANNING BOARD APPLICATIONS

None

DISCUSSION

Algae in the basins

Rita informed the board that there are 2 aerators that need to be fixed and the parts are on order. As far as replacing them the Township is looking into going with a different company because the ones there now keep breaking. Rita talked about a proposal letter regarding chemical treatments the landscaper wants to use. Karl and Nancy have concerns with what chemicals they want to use. Nancy stated that the first two that are suggested being used are both safe, according to Rutgers and Clemson preventing through the aerators as opposed to killing it after it's there.

Pesticides and herbicides with the Township Landscaper

Nancy is putting together a letter to the Township regarding the recommended fertilizer and to enforce the New Jersey applicator laws. Rita stated that the landscaper will not be fertilizing the DPW will be. In regard to informing the residents Karl suggested that we define the critical areas that are being impacted. Denise suggested that the board come to a Township Committee meeting and talk to the Township Engineer to see what areas are affected. The board had a short discussion on educating the residents on why the area around the ponds need to stay natural and not cut down. The recommended fertilizer is chelated copper and it be sprayed on.

Denise left the meeting at 7:25

Trees

The board discussed where the oak tree that was donated by Fernbrook for Arbor Day would go. Karl stated that he would think that 25 feet off where the meeting room is and that he would put a stake at the suggested location for everyone to comment.

Nancy stated that in the development where the Boy Scouts planted trees they need some attention, Nancy will tidy them up. Karl stated that Jack Ryder said he could plant more because of all the trees that were lost due to the beaver issue. Rita mentioned that the evergreens are growing great along the Turnpike, however near the development the pines are scarce. Maybe the EC could start a program to get more pine trees for that area to block the noise, something to think about. Karl stated there are a lot of Ash and in the future we will be looking at a lot of dead trees. Something to be looking into.

Natural Resource Inventory

The subcommittee met and Ms. Ryan contacted the firm that did the last updated and she was sent a copy of the final draft. The secretary will make copies for the board members. Mr. Braun contacted DVRC regarding obtaining a grant but hasn't heard back. He will let Ms. Romeu know when he hears something.

Reports

Nancy put together a draft of the Annual Accomplishments. The secretary will type them up and send them to everyone. No other reports are needed at this time.

Education Session (via zoom)

Tabled till next meeting

NOT ON THE AGENDA

Regarding Sustainable, We got our Bronze which is good for two years. To go for Silver we would need to get another 300 points and would have to have everything done by June and due to the crises it may be hard to get all that done.

Sarah stated that the library was thinking about doing a story board around the walking paths. A possibility would be to team up with the library and the Township to earn sustainable points. It was suggested that Margerum Road would be a good area.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion was made by Mr. Spence second by Ms. Dyson to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Aggie Napoleon, Secretary