

CHESTERFIELD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

May 25, 2021

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

Present Nancy Scarafile, Karl Braun, Rita Romeu, Sarah Dyson, F. Gerry Spence, Ms. Koetas-Dale. Absent: Jane Ryan

MINUTES

April 27, 2021

A motion was made by Ms. Romeu second by Mr. Braun to approve the April 27, 2021 meeting minutes. All were in favor with the exception of Mr. Spence who abstained, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Freshwater Wetlands Application-Crosswicks Forge, LLC, Block 302 Lot 1. For information only

PLANNING BOARD APPLICATIONS

No Application were submitted.

DISCUSSION

Bluebird Boxes

Mr. Braun informed the board that 6 red cedar boxes were received. One was placed in Margerum Park, two were placed at Charlotte Rodgers Park and three were placed in the meadow behind the Municipal Building.

Pond no-mow

Ms. Scarafile stated that everything is growing nicely. She spoke to Mr. Ulsher regarding no mowing on the slopes. Mr. Ulsher is ordering more signs to be placed in the areas that were missed for example on Bordentown-Crosswicks Road near Colemantown.

Reusable Bags

Ms. Scarafile informed the board that she spoke to someone and she was told that the shipping container is empty and is sitting in New York. Hopefully the bags are on the way to us. There is no update from Sandesh.

Water Testing

Ms. Romeu informed the board that the Purchase Order was approved. The date for testing is set for next week. The results should be in by the first week in June. The cost is less than was original thought.

Pipeline Update

The secretary informed the board that the work will be done on Rt. 528 on May 26th then they will be working in North Hanover for a bit. When done there they will be back on Rt 664. Not sure on when. Mr. Braun asked about the volume of truck traffic that has increased which is not normal. There was a brief discussion on the possibility that the roads have been closed and also that the pipeline company are moving their equipment. Ms. Koetas-Dale suggested everyone keep an eye out to see if this is the case or is due to the warehouse in Bordentown.

Tree keepers

Ms. Koetas-Dale stated that the Shade Tree Board will meet tomorrow and they will discuss who will be choose the areas they will be in charge of reporting back. Ms. Bremer-Nei – the ponds on Harness; Mr. Brown – Crosswicks Village; Mr. Ulsher looks everywhere. The board discussed what should be reported back, they should be looking for signs of spotted lantern flies; diseases on the trees, dead trees, Ms. Dyson suggested putting together a guide of what should be looked for.

Meadow

Mr. Braun received 5 pounds of seed which was planted. It is very dry and rain is desperately needed. The second planting will be the types of flowers that will pollinate.

Margerum Road Park

Ms. Scarafile stated that Mr. Sahol said that the Township would like stop mowing and to let the park go natural. Mr. Braun stated that the area is wetlands and there is a walking path in there with benches that were donated by the Scouts. He would like the Township to just keep the trees from falling into the parking lot. This way people that want to walk in there have somewhere to park. He stated he would speak to Mr. Sahol. Ms. Scarafile sees a lot of public service trucks in there during lunch hours because of the shade. Mr. Braun stated that it is the only wild life park in Chesterfield. This is something that should be talked about when revising the Natural Recourse Inventory. Mr. Braun will speak to Mr. Sahol and see if it can be kept useful with little maintenance, he will report back next month.

Natural Recourse Inventory

Ms. Romeu stated that a couple of residents asked about it and are curious as to where it stands. The board should start looking for Grants to hire a consultant. Ms. Scarafile will check with ANJAC to see if grants are available.

Shade Tree Advisor Board Update

Ms. Koetas-Dale informed the board that at their last meeting they came to an agreement on how to run the memorial. They will also be working on the hazard tree inventory, Mr. Ulsher suggested doing it by scale. They are still going over the ordinance. Ms. Koetas-Dale asked Mr. Braun if he had given an updated tree list that the proposed warehouse could use. Mr. Braun stated he did refresh the list with native trees due to the diseases, he also stated that should be at least 5 different species for screening.

NOT ON THE AGENDA

Ms. Koetas-Dale informed the board that she spoke to Mr. Sahol regarding the concern of Ms. Thier at our last meeting about the Magnolia tree at the Old Municipal Building. Mr. Sahol guaranteed that the tree would not be removed when the building is demolished. It is too large to move so it will just stay there.

Ms. Scarafile informed the board the SEWA group along with Public Works cleaned up the dumping and trash over the weekend. They brought out 2 truckloads of brush. Ms. Scarafile would like to plan a day to go out to Colemantown and Barryland and have a cleanup day.

Ms. Scarafile would spoke to Mr. Ulsher regarding adding no dumping signs at Margerum Park, the end of Atison Way and Colemantown. She hasn't heard back from him yet. The board had a short discussion on having the no dumping signs having the ordinance on there along with the fine. This would hopefully deter residents from dumping.

Ms. Koetas-Dale stated that the Harvest Fest is scheduled for the last Saturday in September and it will be in the village square in front of the school. Ms. Scarafile thought it was going to be at the Municipal Building. Ms. Koetas-Dale will reach out to Ms. Fryc to verify the location. The board talked about combining with the Green Team to have a table at the event.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Scarafile opened the meeting for public comment.

Ms. Blazic wanted to thank Ms. Ryan for the tree seedlings and for all the other plantings she has received which is growing beautiful in her yard.

Hearing no further public comment, the public portion was closed.

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 7:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Aggie Napoleon, Secretary