

CHESTERFIELD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
OCTOBER 25, 2022

The Secretary called the meeting of the Chesterfield Township Environmental Commission to order at 6:30PM. The Open Public Meetings Act Statement was read and compliance noted.

Present Nancy Scarafile, Roseann Greenberg, Karl Braun (6:44), Jane Ryan, Denise Koetas-Dale. Absent: Sarah Dyson and F. Gerry Spence.

MINUTES

September 29, 2022

Ms. Greenberg asked that the minutes be amended, in regard to the Harvest Fest she did not suggest 2 pocket parks Troy did. A motion was made by Ms. Greenberg second by Ms. Scarafile to approve the September 29, 2022 meeting minutes with the correction. All were in favor; motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Noreen Cardinali – Regarding the Old York County Club.

PLANNING BOARD APPLICATIONS

None

TASK FORCE

Denise stated that the Task Force met with Trans Co and asked them for updates to which they agreed.

DISCUSSION

ERI

A tour of the Township is scheduled for October 26th with Delaware Valley, Ms. Scarafile, Mr. Braun and Ms. Ryan will be there. The locations they will be visiting was distributed to the board members.

Charlotte Rogers Meadow

Ms. Scarafile stated that the second half of the seed was purchased and Mr. Braun and Ms. Scarafile finished seeding. Ms. Scarafile has reached out to Fast Signs to get a quote for signage with no response yet. The board decided to get 2 signs one for the Charlotte Rogers Park and one for the Municipal Building meadow.

A motion was made by Ms. Koetas-Dale second by Ms. Ryan to approve a maximum of \$100 for the signs. All were in favor, motion carried.

Community Garden

Ms. Greenberg is wrapping up the project. So far there are 28 people that have contacted her expressing interest. She sent an email to offer a free plot to the Boy and Girl Scouts and also the SEWA group to see if they would be interested as part of a community service to provide food to the local food banks. The deadline for anyone interested is

October 31st. After the deadline Ms. Greenberg will compile a list and submit a plan to the Township Committee.

Green Team

Ms. Koetas-Dale passed out a draft which will be posted on the Township Website seeking anyone interested in being on the Green Team explaining the process. She suggested having a sub-committee to establish procedures and report back to the Environmental Commission. The completed volunteer forms will go to Caryn Hoyer, Township Clerk and then to Aggie to pass out to the EC members. The EC will then recommend to the Township Committee.

Rigid Plastic

Ms. Scarafile informed the board that on October 8th at the DPW site 1,100 lbs. were collected. The board talked about having a collection twice a year. June 3rd and then again in the fall. The Township gets the credits and it's good for community service.

STAB

Ms. Koetas-Dale stated that their September meeting was focused on the Harvest Fest. Ms. Greenberg stated that Mr. Kuser planted 15 trees for the hedgerow and once they are filled in she will mulch them. The Clean Communities fall cleanup was done by her and some neighbors, she was told that the money provided by Clean Communities for the cleanup can go to groups so Ms. Greenberg and her neighbors did this on behalf of the Green Team. She ask the board if the \$250 received could be donated to Mr. Kusers employees for planting the trees in the hedgerow. A motion was made by Mr. Braun second by Ms. Koetas-Dale to ask the Township to give that money to Fernbrook for the employees work. All were in favor, motion carried.

Ms. Koetas-Dale reached out to the Eagle Scout regarding his project on the walking trail and planting of trees. He is going to submit his plan to Troy.

BUDGET

The board would like to suggest to the Township Committee to lower the miscellaneous budget to \$1,000.00

ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Ms. Greenberg would like to apply for a Sustainable Grant for \$2,000 to purchase bushes and shrubs for the hedgerow. Ms. Koetas-Dale stated that she would like to apply for the grant under the Shade Tree Advisory Board.

Ms. Greenberg would like to have an organized plan on how the seeds and plants are planted in the hedgerow not just throw out seed so that it will be more enticing to the public. Ms. Koetas-Dale suggested having a work shop to educate the public.

Mr. Braun asked the board to come up with a list of items that can be talked about while walking the grounds with Delaware Valley.

There is a letter from DEP about the denying at the State level. Mr. Braun stated that DVRPC was not copied however they should be for their information only. The board was ok with Mr. Braun giving DVRPC the letter.

Ms. Greenberg drew a logo and passed it out. It has everything to represent Chesterfield. The board members loved it.

The what to do with your waste letter that Ms. Greenberg wrote was given to Caryn to be put on the website. Aggie will check to make sure it goes on there.

Ms. Greenberg had CORE training at the conference, they talked about tree inventory and that it must be done by a professional. She said that there are grants to do a tree inventory. In order to get a grant it must be mentioned in the CFMP and since we have been given an extension to 2027 the board could do an addendum to include having an inventory done. Ms. Koetas-Dale stated she would talk about it at the STAB meeting and see if they would like to do the grant jointly with EC.

INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Greenberg second by Ms. Scarafile to open for public comment. All were in favor, motion carried.

Brett Anderson – 62 Brookdale Way. He expressed his concerns regarding the trees, he stated that the community members are confused on whether they or the Township are responsible for the trees. He suggested the EC and STAB take control and put together a plan. He read a portion of a letter written by NJ Conservation Foundation stating that they are opposed to the warehouse development at Old York Country Club. He stated that this letter was sent to the Township Committee.

Lorrie Thier-40 Foulkes Lane. She asked if the EC was consulted regarding the redevelopment plan and will the EC be involved with all the plantings. The board stated that they have not been involved with the redevelopment. Mr. Braun stated that the EC did a punch list of materials they recommend be planted and also expressed issues of concern however nothing has been brought to the EC regarding plans. Ms. Koetas-Dale stated that this will be discussed when a plan is submitted by the developer. Ms. Thier asked if the board will go on the property during the DVRPC walk through, Mr. Braun stated that only when the developer submits a plan will the EC go onto the property. Ms. Thier asked if the EC would want to do small meadows around the village, Ms. Koetas-Dale said it is a slow process. She asked if something could go out to the residents showing where the meadows are going.

Hearing no further comment a motion was made by Ms. Koetas-Dale second by Ms. Greenberg to close public comment. All were in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Braun spoke to Mr. Hirsh regarding the tree planting and he was informed that the bond will not be released until all trees and shrubs have been replaced. Mr. Braun will draft a letter to the Township Committee and cc Mr. Hirsh requesting that the bond not be released until the EC had a chance to look at the sight. Ms. Koetas-Dale asked the secretary to get a copy of the approved planting and send to the EC members.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion was made by Mr. Braun second by Ms. Ryan to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Aggie Napoleon, Secretary