

MONTVILLE TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
MINUTES FOR APRIL 19, 2023 - 7:00PM

CALL TO ORDER

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

As required by the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided. The notice specified the time and place of the meeting to the extent known at the time. The notice was posted on the bulletin board at the Municipal Building, sent to the Daily Record and The Citizen and was placed on file in the Township Clerk's Office. This meeting has been properly noticed to the public in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Antal -Present
Ms. Arminio – Excused Absence
Mr. Daughtry - Present
Ms. Faber - Present
Dr. Kornreich - Present
Mr. Kovalcik - Present
Ms. Misiewicz - Present
Mr. Angiolini - Present
Also Present - Ms. Witty, TC Liaison
Ms. Corcoran, EC Recording Secretary

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS

Board of Adjustment – No Report

Economic Development – No Report

Health Department – No Report

Open Space Committee – Ms. Misiewicz stated that there was a presentation regarding an historical house on Changebridge Rd that OS was requesting the Township Committee to purchase as Open Space. They also asked the Township Committee to use Open Space funds to refurbish a Walking Trail at the Community Park. An investigative walk was planned and executed from Abbott Rd to Santander Bank to propose as a walking trail.

Planning Board – Dr. Kornreich stated that there is still work to be done for the proposed and approved development on Main Rd. They still must show that the existing sanitary sewer and pump station can handle the additional flow. Final testimony will be heard at the next PB meeting regarding Old Bloomfield Ave & Hook Mt Rd which is the subject of our site plan presentation tonight.

School Activities – Ms. Misiewicz stated that they had a very successful seedling wrapping workshop at the High School with the help of the Earth Club and REACH students.

Township Committee –Ms. Witty stated that the street resurfacing list has been published. Hydrant flushing is still ongoing. The shredding and electronic recycling event is to be held on April 22nd. In the Township's monthly newsletter, the Township Engineer, Nick Marucci addressed fertilizer and pet waste in the storm basins. There will be a Ramadan celebration at the Amphitheater tomorrow evening. The Township Budget has been published.

Historic Preservation Review – Mr. Angiolini stated that they were working with the Township Committee on trying to save 107 Changebridge Road. He has also presented a list of projects for the HPRC like the one for the EC and there may be a number of projects that would be tied together with both committees.

MINUTES

A motion to approve the Minutes from February 15, 2023, was made by Mr. Daughtry, seconded by Mr. Angiolini. All in favor: Unanimous

Eligible: Arminio, Daughtry, Kornreich, Misiewicz, Faber, Angiolini

CORRESPONDENCE

Morris Park Alliance Postcard – Ms. Misiewicz discovered that this was a grant that focused on innovative plantings on remediated hazardous waste sites.

159 River Rd, Block 131 Lot 16 – Dr. Kornreich stated that they are updating the septic with no environmental impact.

NEW BUSINESS

Exploring future Environmental Commission Programs – Mr. Angiolini went over the attached list of discussion ideas for the EC in 2023. It was decided to set up sub committees of not more than three members to work on a few of these items such as Recycling issues, adopt a stormwater basin, EV Charging stations, NJ Native species, Rain Barrels & Rain Gardens to start with.

Pinto Property at 151, 153 & 155 River Rd – This is an amendment to the original 2016 site plan. They are looking to go from a partial basement to a full basement. There is not much the EC can comment on in addition to the previous response. Mr. Kovalcik will review the application to prepare a response.

Presentation/Instruction by Dr. Kornreich – Site Plan Review Procedures. Dr. Kornreich went over the procedures for a site plan review for new members and a refresher for existing members as he had done back in October of 2022. There are specific guidelines to be followed within the township when building and site plans are needed to see if all is in order. You may build/develop even in wetlands or streams if you comply with DEP requirements. The task of the EC is easier as it is voluntary. Engineering drawings will be provided of the proposed development to show what is to be done on the land, EC offers another level of review that can help to point out things that may be overlooked or missed by the professionals. Why do a site review? To review the impact on the site, water, stormwater, slopes, soil, habitat, vulnerable species, lighting, etc. The EC is a recommendation entity so in review of the landscape plan the EC may recommend native species. Site visit is important to be able to get a better understanding of the engineering drawings so that a more thorough written report of recommendations will be provided by the EC. We currently have plans from the Bloomfield Avenue & Hook Mt Rd project to review.

OLD BUSINESS

Montville Township Natural Resource Inventory – Slated to be renewed in 2024 provided funds have been added to the budget.

Tree Ordinance – This is still under review by the Planner.

2023 Third Grade Arbor Day Seedling Program – All the seedlings have been wrapped thanks to help from the Earth Club and REACH students. There are an additional fifty-two (52) more Third Grade Students from last year.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Mr. Daughtry and seconded by Mr. Kovalcik the meeting was adjourned at 8:34PM.

All in favor: Unanimous